

THE
NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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CONTENTS.	
ECCLIASTICAL:—	IRKLAND 834
Ethics of Nonconformity.	The Repeal Association. 834
No. 14. Practice..... 829	POSTSCRIPT 835
The Evangelical Volun-	POLITICAL ARTICLES:—
tary Church Associa-	Summary..... 836
tion—The Anti-state-	Exhaustion of the Cata-
church Movement in	logue of Specimens 836
Leeds—The Dissem-	Railway Accidents 837
inations in the Church of	SELECTIONS FROM THE
England—Miscella-	PRESS 837
neous 829	METROPOLITAN 838
CORRESPONDENCE:—	Mr Vincent in the Tower
Dissenters and Fire In-	Hamlets 838
surance..... 831	PROVINCIAL 839
Chapels and Anti-state-	SCOTLAND 840
church Lectures 832	MISCELLANEOUS 841
COMPLETE SUFFRAGE 832	EVERYBODY'S COLUMN..... 841
FOREIGN NEWS:—	RELIGIOUS 841
United States—Canada—	MARRIAGES AND DEATHS 841
France—Spain—Mis-	TRADE AND COMMERCE .. 842
cellany 833	ADVERTISEMENTS 842

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

ETHICS OF NONCONFORMITY.

No. XIV.
PRACTICE.

ANTINOMIANISM! What shall we say of it? What need we say? It tells its own pedigree. Look in its sanctimonious face, and you will see the image of the beast there. Its breath is foul—its speech malignant—its whole bearing, the bearing of presumption and impudence. Common sense cannot be deceived by its flimsy sophistry—and every moral feeling of the soul is roused at its approach, and instinctively lifts up the heel against it.

Well! well! speak gently, lest you involve yourself in the condemnation you utter. Antinomianism has several forms, and it sometimes happens that they who are loudest in their denunciations of it under one shape, hug it to their bosoms when it appears in another. To attempt a ~~careless~~ *careless* between faith and duty—to cry up the virtue of belief, and to cry down the obligation to act—to make men's hearts the sepulchres, rather than the soil, of truth—to justify the strangling of principles in their cradles, lest they should cry and give annoyance to neighbours—what is this but antinomianism? and who is more chargeable with this than they who are perpetually chiding nonconformity with their authoritative "Lie still?" And it is observable that both classes of antinomians base their tenets upon the modest assumption of supernatural spirituality. It is all for the gospel's sake that professed dissenters maintain a studied silence, and urge determined inaction in reference to their distinctive principles. They cannot consent to endanger the progress of true religion, by any serious efforts to spread what? "Aye! What, on their own showing? Error? No! Uncertain opinions? Not at all! Conclusions fairly arrived at by human reasoning? This is not their way of putting it! But, revealed truth—a part and parcel of Christianity—a portion of the expressed mind of God. "Hush!" they cry, "for the sake of spiritual-mindedness, hush! Say nothing about that—do nothing to carry out that—balk not the chances of Christian union by insisting upon that—peril not our present liberty by combining for that."

"In shade let it rest like a delicate flower;
O breathe on it softly! it dies in an hour."

Flat antinomianism! Most barefaced, palpable and heretical antinomianism!

Truth says, "Be—but be, in order to do!" The thoughts which she inspires must kindle into warm affections—and those affections must needs evolve themselves in action. Nothing born of truth can lie still—"born," we say, for there may be an image on the understanding, when there is no life in the conscience—and where there is not life, there can be no nonconformity. But all vitality, moral as well as physical, craves exercise—and a principle in the heart, though but of yesterday, like a new-born babe, will first cry, and then kick—first profess itself, and, as soon as may be, act.

It is easier to suffer than to do—to bear great trials, than to perform little deeds with cheerful perseverance—therefore, in these "Ethics of Nonconformity," have we placed "practice" after "self-sacrifice." In the last case, the *vis inertia* of a man's will is in his favour—in the first, it is

dead against him. There, the line of gravitation falls before the wheels—here, behind them. And yet, that nonconformity which lives will assuredly act. At least, such is its innate tendency—a tendency which will put itself forth in deeds, unless the paralysis of some morbid theory of morals utterly destroys it.

The practice of the conscientious nonconformist will require comparatively little guidance. Like every other result of instinctive affection, itself will be its best preceptor. It may err in its means, and so may maternal fondness—but, on the whole, even when left to itself, it is almost certain of doing good. For, without wishing to disparage intelligence, whether natural or acquired, it is amazing how small is its power for usefulness, how trivial its influence, when placed beside those of deep sincerity. The very mistakes of the earnest man are often overruled for good—and the fuller the earnestness the less the danger of mistake. Deep waters are placid. Intense fires glow, but do not flame. The soul absorbed in the desire to realise one end, is calm and penetrating—and sees, not so much by reason as by intuition. Hence, all large-hearted reformers have acted as if by inspiration—and those of their deeds which caution might have pronounced to be madness, experience has proved to have resulted from more than mortal wisdom.

There is a lofty spirit of poetry in heroic acts, which lights up in all generous minds an emulation to achieve them. But, perhaps, in the eye of truth, we can sustain a yet nobler part. To do small services, as we have opportunity—never to overlook them because they seem trivial—to render them with cheerfulness, when they can yield us no revenue of praise—to pay them because we can pay them, not waiting till more is in our power—to trudge on day by day, without the excitement of a single incident—to take pains about little things as if they were great ones—to put soul into details, down to the very mode, if need be, of a shoe-tie—in short, so to show our attachment to truth as the affectionate child does to his mother, not by magnificent presents now and then, but in little, quiet, vigilant, every-day acts of kindness, done, and thought no more of when they are done—done for the very pleasure of doing anything to express love—give us this as the purest, richest, noblest specimen of conscientious nonconformity! He who thus acts is the violet of the moral world: every breeze diffuses the delicious fragrance of his character. He may be unseen, and his head may droop in modesty; but there will be all around him an odour of his own faithfulness, and the perfume of his deeds will fill the neighbouring atmosphere. The influence of that man will be balm.

And it is important to observe that this kind of activity, though the least exciting and the least noisy, is the most satisfactory, and, in the long run, the most useful. It spreads over the life an equable peace. It establishes a moral influence, daily augmenting in power, which, after a time, produces effects which startle their very selves. And as the continual dropping of water wears away the stone, so an untiring attention to seemingly small duties, overcomes difficulties thought, in the first blush of them, to be perfectly insurmountable. And then, what conscience begins with many shrinkings, and much reluctance, habit carries on with ever-increasing pleasure. The child grows into a man, with brawny muscles and stalwart limbs. A tone of health pervades the soul; and the whole frame becomes nerved and knit for exercise. The eye is quick—the heart is sound—the step is firm. O! what a contrast to the pining, pale-faced, tight-laced, hysterical sentimentality of the age!—the poor, inane thing, which pants for the excitement of the platform, and never lives save in a crowd—kept up merely by the brandy and water of public meetings, hot, strong, and with a *quantum sufficit* of sugar—and when at home, languishing, peevish, fit only for the sofa, and useless as an ailing girl. Reader! which lot will you choose? for the choice is even now within your power.

THE EVANGELICAL VOLUNTARY CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

(From the Morning Advertiser.)

On Monday a numerous and rather important meeting of the friends of the above association was holden in the congregational library, Finsbury, for the purpose of hearing the account of Sir C. E. Smith, Bart., who has recently returned from the

continent, and who was desirous of communicating his present views touching recent information which he had received abroad with reference to the voluntary principle, and likewise whether the voluntary question should be dealt with alone, or in connexion with other subjects.

The chair was taken by EDWARD SWAINE, Esq., and among the clergymen and other gentlemen present were—the Rev. Drs Pye Smith, Bennett, Matheson, Harris, Campbell, Reed, and Cox; Revs J. Blackburn, A. Tidman, W. Bean, J. Burnet, J. Yockney, R. Herschell, A. Fletcher, J. Sherman, J. Carlile, G. Rose, —James, J. Russell, together with Messrs W. A. Hankey, T. Pewtress, D. W. Wire, H. Dunn, and S. Thorogood, &c., &c. The business commenced with prayer and praise.

Sir C. SMITH began by saying, that the meeting had been called together for the purpose of calm deliberation, and for the consequent exercise of an impartial judgment, especially as he believed the majority of the present company were composed of individuals friendly to the separation of church and state. It was possible that, coming so recently from the continent, he might be biased by views suitable to the impressions made in his own mind. Of this, however, he was quite certain, that throughout Europe there was a unanimity—a oneness of feeling he would call it—on the subject, which induced him to imagine that ere long a result gratifying to the meeting would inevitably take place, but on this part of the subject he would not anticipate conclusions. He had visited Italy, Germany, including under that general name, Hungary and Prussia; he had likewise visited France. In all these places, as well as in his own country, he had taken cognisance of the great question of religion, which so much agitated men's minds at home and abroad. In speaking of religion in Italy, he, of course, referred to popery, not as it existed in days gone by, but as it was at the present time. As men and as Christians, he thought that the fairest way would be to deal with such facts—facts having reference to what he himself had seen. On entering Rome, one of the first carriages he saw was that of the infant Saviour; an image of whom was drawn in this carriage by horses, and paid visits to the sick. For a fee of five scudi, or about one guinea, the image was placed by the bed of the sick person in order to a recovery. The celebrated Cardinal Gonsalvi, though not a superstitious man, had this image placed by his dying bed, by the command of his housekeeper. The hon. baronet then referred to certain incidents narrated in a work entitled "The Wonders of God," written by a learned Jesuit, in proof of the alleged superstition of the Roman Catholics of Italy. These things, and others, he had seen within the last twenty-four months, and he now alluded to them to show the grossness of the impositions and arguments used by the Roman Catholics of that part of Europe. It was a fact, also, that the King of Naples paid £10,000 to the Pope, for the purpose of canonising a female. A letter was here read, corroborative of the assertion, and that the process of this canonising was by no means a cheap one, for it was as expensive as a suit in Chancery, or the recent Irish state trials. This same amount of English money was equal to 50,000 crowns, which was the canonisation fee fixed many years ago by Pope Benedict. On these grounds, he (Sir C. Smith) accused the papal system of corruption. He then adverted to the popish medals described by Bonani 200 years ago, the inscriptions on which he considered blasphemous; yet these medals were still publicly sold in Rome, for he bought some of them himself. The first medal was struck in the time of Urban VII., and the words of the prophet Isaiah were applied to the Pope—words which could only have reference to the church of Christ. The second medal was descriptive of the procession of "Corpus Christi," which had reference to the doctrine of transubstantiation. The hon. baronet then noticed the enforcing of the participation of the sacrament of the supper in one of the elements, by the papal priests, on all people, even galley slaves and other criminals, once a year, at Easter. His conviction, founded on the evidence of his own senses, was that the power of the Pope was rotten at its core. This was the opinion of learned and enlightened Italian Catholics themselves. Signor Martorelli, once librarian at the Vatican, now dead, said to a friend of his that, if he lived another forty years, their holy religion would go down. Other proofs he might adduce of the doubt of the Catholics themselves; but he would not, lest he might give offence, and cause injury to individuals living in the papal dominions. At a conference held at Rome, attended by Sir Hamilton Seymour, late our ambassador at Rome, the Pope and the cardinals consented that the offices of the Romish government should be held by laymen only. They had not kept their word, however, for the priests officiated as prime ministers and secretaries of state. He hesitated not to express his firm belief that the most merciful, as well as the wisest way, even for the Pope himself, was to be taken out

of his present position, and have a sum given to him as compensation. Many learned men he could enumerate, Roman Catholics residing abroad, who stated that they were thirsting for that liberty which we, as Christians, were enjoying in this country; but we knew there could be no real religious liberty when it was fettered by connexion with the state. It was the opinion of a celebrated man, the nephew of the Pope's prime minister, that the Bible was the basis of all true religion; and in this belief a society, called the "Christian Alliance Society," chiefly composed of Italians, had been formed for the distribution of bibles in their native country. He adduced these facts to show that even the power of the see of Rome was falling into decay among the professors of the Romish religion [hear]. He would now direct the attention of the meeting to the state of affairs in Austria; there the civil government had become exceedingly jealous of the power of the priests, and it was well known that the Emperor of Austria permitted what had been refused by the King of Bavaria—namely, the transmission of sums of money in aid of the cause of religious liberty. The hon. baronet then referred to the hardship of the law of mixed marriages between Catholics and Protestants in Hungary, the tendency of which was to give the former the predominant power over the latter. Through the intervention of Prince Metternich, this great evil had been, in parts of the Austrian territories, greatly reduced, for the parents might bring up their children as they pleased: this had shaken considerably the power of the Pope. Then, with respect to Gotha, where the Saxon revolution originated and was perfected, and from which the other day this country had received a Saxon prince, there was no end to religious movements in that Saxon land. Cathedral service had been established in Berlin, much against the inclination of the people; but it was tolerated, because the King was much beloved. In short, there were movements of every description everywhere in this part of the world, whether they referred to episcopacy or Presbyterianism, Jews or Christians. While on this subject, he must observe, that the clergymen of Berlin were much attached to the Free Church of Scotland [hear, hear]. Besides all these movements, there was a Lutheran movement: there was scarcely a place in Sweden, likewise, where there was not a Gustavus Adolphus Society, founded for the diffusion of religious liberty. Even among the infidel party abroad, there was a stir; infidelity had there reached a point from which even the professors of Strauss's school shrunk. Reference was then made to the Jewish movement in Germany, by which the Jewish mind had now become completely let loose from its anchor. Having glanced at matters in Italy, Austria, and Germany, &c., he came to France; there was a controversy going on in that country parallel to that which was lately agitated in Scotland, which would admit of no receding [hear, hear]. In French Switzerland, as well as in German Switzerland, the people had their eyes directed to this country, to ascertain what we intended with respect to Tahiti [hear, hear]. For his own part, and with respect to matters at home, he had only been six weeks in this country since his return, and he had in that short time seen enough to convince him that a tremendous crisis was coming: this was eminently the case as affected the see of Exeter, and the church would profit by it. The Bishop had committed himself by his judgment in reference to the rubric; the clergy of his own diocese were against him on this subject; the dissenters were against him; in short, the world, as well as the church, were opposed to this prelate, and the cause of the supporters of the voluntary system would profit by the disagreement. The hon. baronet then referred to the case of the Rev. Mr. Shore and the Bishop of Exeter, now pending in a court of law, observing that the Bishop wished to relinquish all proceedings, seeing he was afraid of the result; but that the rev. defendant (Mr. Shore) had been advised, if the Bishop would not proceed, to force him to it. To recapitulate, he had humbly endeavoured to show how matters stood in Austria, Prussia, Germany, France, Switzerland, and other places, as well as in our country; in all, the church was laden with impurities; and in all, there was a yearning for freedom. He would ask, then, should they continue to raise the standard of separation of church and state—or were they to confine their opposition merely to the Romish church, and its brother, Puseyism? He would say, dissolve the union between the church and state, and good would be sure to follow; to aid him in that course he would look to the schism in the diocese of Exeter, and wait humbly for the victory of truth and of true principles over superstition [hear, hear].

In answer to certain queries put by Dr Cox, Sir C. SMITH said, the question for their deliberation was an open one, and how they could best benefit the cause they had undertaken to support.

Dr CAMPBELL said, the meeting had had a railway trip across the world, and he considered it necessary, before they went further, and touched on other topics, that there should be a little time for consideration.

Mr D. W. WIRE suggested the propriety of adjourning the present meeting, in order that a plan for future operations might be laid. He thought that much that was useful would result from referring the present state of the society to a committee, with power to report.

The Rev. JOHN BURNET said, the Voluntary Society had not been supported so well as it ought, and it had not satisfied the desires of its founders. The society was in debt, and its promoters came to that meeting to be told their faults, and how they might remedy their present state. He had seen many attempts to run down movements, as they were called, by people who had nothing to do with them; but,

as an honest man, he would like to see the debt of the society paid [hear, hear].

Mr WIRE then moved, "That a committee be appointed to consider the statements made to the meeting by Sir C. E. Smith, with a view of reporting to another meeting some plan of operation respecting the great question embraced in his address."

After some conversation and discussion, Mr WIRE agreed that the following addition to his resolution should be made, at the suggestion of the Rev. Mr. Carlile: namely—"and further to report what changes, if any, they would recommend to be adopted for the more efficient carrying out in future of the operations and objects of the Evangelical Voluntary Church Society."

Ultimately, the resolution of Mr WIRE, with the addition of Mr Carlile, was put and carried. A committee was next nominated, members of the Voluntary committee to be members, *ex officio*.

Thanks were then voted to Sir C. E. Smith, and the meeting adjourned to another early day.

THE ANTI-STATE CHURCH MOVEMENT IN LEEDS.

(Abridged from the *Leeds Times*.)

A public meeting was held in the Music hall, Leeds, on Wednesday evening last, to hear a lecture from Dr Massie, of Manchester, on "The historical argument against state establishments of religion under any form"—being the first of a course of lectures in connexion with the British Anti-state-church Association, on the union of church and state, for the delivery of which arrangements have already been made.

The meeting was very numerous and respectably attended, and an ardent feeling was manifested repeatedly during the lecture, in favour of the separation of church and state. It was certainly a very propitious opening of the campaign in Leeds; and the large number present on the occasion must be regarded as indicating the interest felt in the question, more especially when it is considered that special religious services were being held, on the same evening, in connexion with the Independent denomination, which would, in all probability, prevent many from attending the lecture, who would otherwise have done so. The meeting was felt to be a very encouraging one to the friends of the Anti-state-church Association.

The chair was taken, at about seven o'clock, by Mr J. Fox, minister of the gospel, who opened the business of the meeting with some appropriate remarks.

In the first part of the lecture, Dr MASSIE laid before the audience the legitimate province of a civil government, and the purposes which it ought to promote as a national institution. He then proceeded to exhibit the manner and degree in which state religions have interfered with the accomplishment of such purposes, in an able historical survey of the governments of the world, commencing with the polity and government of the nation of Israel. He showed that the arguments which have been drawn, either as precedent or as a warrant for the establishment of state churches, from the established church of Israel and its polity, were inconclusive, inasmuch as the people of Israel were a nation placed by God in circumstances different from every other nation. He next entered into a view of the connexion of the Pagan superstitions with the state. He then went into a history of the Christian church (pointing out the evils of its connexion with the state), including first the reign of the Roman Emperor Constantine, by entering into confederacy with whom Christianity was divested of its heaven-born dignity, and made to descend to be the slave of ruling monarchs. The reigns of Edward VI., Mary, Elizabeth, James I., and the History of England during the last 120 years, were also well brought to bear, in the course of the lecture, against state establishments of religion. The discourse was one of great power and research, often eliciting, during its delivery, the loud applause of the audience. At the conclusion, Dr Massie made an appeal to those present to become members of the British Anti-state-church Association, to promote the objects of which his lecture forms the first of a series arranged to be delivered in Leeds monthly. Amongst the names of the subsequent lecturers were mentioned the Rev. J. E. Giles, Mr James Richardson, the Rev. J. Peters, and the Rev. Mr Tunnicliffe.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Dr Massie, for his able, eloquent, and learned lecture, by Mr JAMES RICHARDSON, who declared that, if he had only seven men by his side, in the town of Leeds, he, for his own part, would go on with this movement; and he was convinced that, in spite of all opposition, they would ultimately conquer (applause). He called upon them to give a vote of thanks to the first captain who had come forward to lead on their band (applause).

Mr WADE seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously, and with loud cheers.

A vote of thanks was then unanimously given to the Chairman, for his conduct in presiding over the meeting.

Before the meeting separated, it was stated that Mr J. E. Giles was prevented from being present, by severe indisposition.

The meeting then broke up.

THE DISSENSIONS IN THE STATE CHURCH.

The tractarian controversy still rages with undiminished vigour, and begins to alarm many friends of the church—so much so, that the following petition, with a large number of signatures attached, amongst which are those of the Duke of Sutherland, the Earl of Denbigh, the Earl of Gainsborough, Viscount Sandon, M.P., Viscount Morpeth, Lord Calthorpe, Lord Rayleigh, Lord Teignmouth, Lord Bloomfield, Lord Francis Egerton, M.P., Lord H. Cholmondeley, Lord Ashley, M.P., Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., Lord Howard, M.P., Hon. W.

Cowper, M.P., Hon. Mr Ashley, Hon. F. Calthorpe, Hon. Colonel Upton, Hon. Joceline W. Percy, Hon. Captain Waldegrave, Sir Thomas Baring, Sir Harry Verney, M.P., Sir John Kennaway, Sir W. R. Farquhar, Sir T. Lawley, Mr J. C. Colquhoun, M.P., Mr R. M. Milnes, M.P., &c., has been prepared for presentation to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

"The period which it has pleased Almighty God to continue to the church of England the mild and paternal superintendence of your grace, in the discharge of her highest ecclesiastical functions, has been marked by great and important changes in our social, moral, and political circumstances.

"A lengthened interval of peace, the advancement of literature, the arts, sciences, and civilisation, and, above all, the rapid increase of our population, have produced an alteration in the relative position of the several orders of society, which demand the grave consideration of every one who desires to promote the well-being of the nation, but more especially to those who are the appointed guardians of her religious institutions, and the pastors of her people.

"Under these circumstances, and impelled by a heartfelt attachment to the scriptural principles of our established church, and by an earnest desire that its efficiency should be increased, and the interests of true religion more effectually promoted through its agency, we the undersigned lay members of the church venture, with all respect, to bring under the consideration of your grace some means by which we trust, under the divine blessing, these great objects may be attained.

Admirably as our parochial system seems calculated to meet the wants of the country, and to bring the ministration of the clergy within the reach of all classes, still the increase of our population, and its unequal distribution, render it impossible that they should extend their pastoral care to the great majority of their flocks in large towns and populous districts. We do not forget the attempts made by the legislature, by voluntary associations, and by individuals, to remedy this defect; but we are convinced that further measures are required to reach the full extent of the evil. We believe that the usefulness and efficiency of the national church might be very greatly increased by arrangements which, without introducing any organic changes, should bring into active operation the powers and capacities now lying dormant in her existing institutions.

"To effect this, we believe that two important objects must be accomplished:—First, the clergy must be increased in number; and, secondly, provision must be made for a more systematic employment of laymen in the exercise of functions which do not belong exclusively to the clergy. In the attainment of these objects we would respectfully request your grace, and the other members of the episcopal bench, to take into consideration:—First, The expediency of increasing largely the number of the third order of our clergy—the deacons; and we venture to suggest that this may be effected by admitting, on such condition as will maintain the order and discipline of our church, persons who have not the means of proceeding to a university degree, but who are found competently trained for the service of the sanctuary; their advancement to the higher order of the ministry being made contingent upon a faithful discharge, during a lengthened period, of the office of a deacon; or upon such other circumstances as your grace and the other members of the episcopal bench may think fit.

"Secondly—The propriety of sanctioning and encouraging the employment of a class of laymen, who, without altogether abandoning their worldly callings, might be set apart, under episcopal authority, to act as visitors of the sick, scripture readers, catechists, and the like, in parishes where their introduction should be approved by the parochial clergy.

"The system of district visiting, and the appointment of lay scripture readers, under clerical superintendence, have already been adopted, we believe with much success, in many populous parishes; but the present state of society requires that both these means of usefulness should be greatly extended, and brought into more immediate connexion with our ecclesiastical arrangements, for we are fully persuaded that the true strength of our church can never be completely known until, by some such means, her lay members are enabled, under direct sanction and control, to take part in the discharge of all those offices which are not by her constitution restricted to the three orders of the ministry.

"To provide the necessary funds (which would be administered by a board, made up by a well-considered union of the clergy and laity), contributions may, we have little doubt, be extensively called forth, in offerings and collections made for this specific object, at such periods and under such regulations as may be found desirable; and we venture to hope, that an effort so directly affecting the efficiency of the church, would attract the sympathies and obtain the support of all classes within her communion.

"In venturing to urge upon your grace the adoption of these measures, which would supply a link much needed between parochial clergy and the community at large, we are far from desiring to make any innovation in our ecclesiastical policy. We only seek to restore to full vigour and efficiency one of the orders in our church, and to promote the appointment of officers already recognised by ecclesiastical authority, and for which, at no period since the reformation, has the position of the church more imperatively called."

In addition to this, the following memorial has been addressed by the Dean and canons of the Exeter chapter, to the Archbishop of Canterbury:—

To His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury. The humble Memorial of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter.

Whereas it appears to your memorialists, highly desirable to put an end to certain diversities in the celebration of divine service, which now agitate and weaken the church; they most humbly and earnestly beseech your grace that you would be pleased to consult with all the bishops of your province as to the best means of obtaining this object; and for that purpose to procure their concurrence in some uniform interpretation of those rubrics in the book of Common Prayer, which may seem obscure or conflicting, and in some uniform rule for the direction of the clergy, with respect to certain forms and practices, which have more or less, fallen into desuetude.

A measure of this nature, not confined to any particular dioceses, but sanctioned by the united authority of all the prelates of our church, would as your memorialists humbly hope, under God's blessing, allay these un-

happy dissensions, and would meet with the cordial acquiescence of the laity, who could not suspect the influence of party, when all the fathers of the church concurred in the same regulations.

Chapter House, Exeter, 15th Nov., 1844.

A correspondence between Mr Gabriel Kennard, jun., ex-churchwarden of East Farleigh, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, has also been published, in reference to the same subject. This dispute, as will be seen from the subjoined reply of the Primate, is of old standing. As the principal points of Mr Kennard's letter are noticed in the reply of the Archbishop of Canterbury, it will be unnecessary to insert the former. The letter is dated November 22; the reply, November 25:—

Lambeth, Nov. 25.

SIR—With respect to the complaints which you and some other parishioners preferred to me about eight months ago, I made you acquainted with my decision, which was founded on the reports, first of the Rev. Dr Griffith, and afterwards of the Archdeacon of Maidstone, who at my request undertook the inquiry. Two more competent judges, in point of learning, and piety, and knowledge of the particular subjects, could hardly be found, and I see no reason to question the propriety of that decision. I am willing, however, to consider any further complaints with respect to the performance of the church service, if you will state the charges distinctly and clearly, avoiding generalities, on which no judgment can be formed.

In your letter, of the 22nd of this month, you say—“1st, That the service is performed in a way that is unintelligible and unedifying. 2ndly, That unedifying doctrines are preached from the pulpit—the church being put in the place of Christ, and the sacraments being made of more importance than that inward and spiritual grace of the Holy Spirit of which the sacraments are the outward and visible signs.”

The first of these charges is expressed in such general terms, that it must be regarded as mere assertion, more especially as it does not concur with the opinion of the Archdeacon of Maidstone, who attended the church for the express purpose of ascertaining in what manner the service was performed.

The second is more specific: it relates to points of so much importance, and is of so grave a character, that it requires to be substantiated by citation of passages, or by reference at least to particular discourses. Indeed, I cannot but think that here there is some misapprehension: it seems to me hardly conceivable that any clergyman should be so extremely absurd as to exalt the church above its Divine founder, the servants and ministers of Christ above their Lord, or so profoundly ignorant of the nature of a sacrament, which consists of two parts, the outward visible sign, and the inward spiritual grace, as to speak of the outward sign as the whole, and even attach to it greater importance than to the inward grace.

You then speak of Mr Wilberforce's reported intention of erecting crosses—an intention which, could it even be proved to be wrong, not having led to any overt act, would not constitute a legal offence.

You state that Mr Wilberforce has carried the practice of chanting the service to a still greater extent than before, so far, indeed, as to deprive the parishioners of the privilege of common prayer; but you have not informed me what additional portions of the service are now chanted, or from what source the anthems which you speak of as having been substituted for hymns are taken.

You complain of the introduction of the word “blessed” before the name of the Virgin Mary; but you have not stated whether such is the regular practice of Mr Wilberforce, or how often it has occurred. The introduction of any word not found in the Creed is wrong: otherwise, the application of the term “blessed” to the Virgin Mary is justified by the rubric of the Common Prayer, as well as by the authority of scripture (St Luke, chap. i.).

I have purposely confined myself to those parts of your letter which relate to the performance of divine service in the church of East Farleigh. Mr Wilberforce cannot be answerable for what is done or written in other places or by other persons; nor can I properly notice on this occasion that which does not immediately belong to my spiritual jurisdiction.

I remain, sir, your humble and obedient servant,
To Gabriel Kennard, jun., Esq., late W. CANTUAR.
Churchwarden of East Farleigh.

P.S. On referring again to your letter, I perceive I have overlooked one of the most serious charges against Mr Wilberforce—belief in the doctrine of transubstantiation, a doctrine which I have not discovered in any sermon of his that I have seen.

To this Mr Kennard has replied, bringing more distinct charges against Mr Wilberforce, the vicar, especially in reference to his belief in transubstantiation.

The Bishop of Exeter has also again come forward before the public. He has just published a “letter to the clergy of the diocese of Exeter on the observance of the Rubric in the book of common prayer.” The prelate lays it down that the true remedy for the dissensions that prevail in the church “must be sought in returning to a faithful observance of the act of uniformity,” which “has, in truth, every claim a law can have, on the dutiful and cordial obedience of churchmen. Based on the soundest principles, recognising and declaring the liturgy itself to be purely spiritual in its origin, and applying temporal sanctions only to enforce the use of it, this illustrious statute bears on it the character of a solemn compact: by which the church, having provided for the nation a pure form of Christian worship, received for that form the assured protection and support of the crown, and all the estates of the realm.” He therefore entreats the clergy:—“That you will all concur with me in discountenancing every attempt to divide us into parties, by rendering a steady, uniform, and peaceful obedience to the laws of the church, especially in all that relates to the public worship of Almighty God, as enjoined in the rubric of the book of Common Prayer. If to this my earnest entreaty I add, as I am bound to add, the language of authority and order, you will, I am sure, see in it only the fuller sanction and support of your own desire to act in conformity with your own deep feeling of your

duty.” He proceeds to specify particulars. The clergy are, he thinks, bound to read, at least, one sentence of the offertory whenever the communion service shall be read. But whether the collection is to be enforced is to be left to their discretion. They must in some measure consult the wishes of the laity in that respect. While the clergy are urged to a full observance of the rubric, they are called upon to forbear all unnecessary innovations. “I also advise that you make no deviation from the mode in which you may be now severally in the habit of performing divine service, until there shall have been an opportunity of collating the different practices and propositions of the different deaneries. We may too, perhaps, be thus enabled to profit by the construction put on the rubrics in other dioceses, if any similar consideration of the matter meanwhile be had elsewhere.” The Bishop, however, sticks to the use of the surplice, with the authoritative—“there is so little reason for question that I resolve the doubt by requiring that the surplice be always used.” The letter displays much art and ability.

CHURCH RATES, WEST HACKNEY.—Another contest is begun in this parish on the subject of church rates. In July last a motion for the rate was defeated. Since then the church-rate party have been using all the means in their power to increase their strength, and on Thursday again brought forward in vestry a proposition to levy a rate of 3d. in the pound, to collect a sum of £336 19s. 8d. Several gentlemen opposed the proposition, and Mr Matson moved that no rate be granted. On a show of hands, there appeared—for the rate, 52; for rejecting it, 162. Loud cheering followed the announcement. Mr Burt, the churchwarden, amid cries of “Shame, shame,” demanded a poll. At six the numbers were—for the rate, 142; against, 158. On Friday, the polling was kept up with great spirit by both parties; and at five the chairman declared the numbers to be—for the rate, 315; against the rate, 404; majority against the rate, 89. The result elicited great manifestations of delight, and a vote of censure on the churchwardens was carried by acclamation.

CLERICAL BIGOTRY.—A correspondent sends us the following narrative:—In consequence of the small village of Wheaton Aston, Staffordshire, being four miles distant from the nearest post town, the inhabitants have long felt great inconvenience from the irregular delivery of letters, in addition to an extra charge of fourpence for every letter and newspaper. To remedy these evils, a subscription, set on foot by the curate of the parish, the Rev. Thomas Dawes, was lately entered into by the more literary portion of the rural community, to pay some one to fetch the letters from the town referred to. This desirable object having been accomplished, a person was fixed upon by the subscribers to perform the important office of postman. As soon as the choice was made known to the rev. gentleman, he at once announced his intention of entirely withdrawing his support from the scheme, assigning as his only reason that the individual who had been fixed upon was a dissenter! This learned divine, probably alarmed at the progress of dissent in his parish, seems to have discovered a source of danger to the establishment which its most zealous friends have hitherto lost sight of—viz., in the contaminating touch of one not within its pale. He prefers suffering the inconvenience before alluded to, rather than his letters should come into the hands of a dissenter. It is worthy of remark that the minister on whom this audacious dissenter has presumed to attend has, for nearly forty years, been a faithful preacher of the gospel at Wheaton Aston, as well as at a neighbouring place, while the *soi-disant* successor of the apostles is a mere stripling of yesterday. It is scarcely necessary to add that the efforts of Mr Dawes to get the decision reversed have been quite unsuccessful, he being the only objector.

COLDSTREAM.—PUBLIC DINNER TO THE REV. DR THOMSON.—On Thursday afternoon the friends of the Rev. Dr Thomson entertained him at a public dinner, in the Newcastle Arms inn, in order to testify the high estimation in which they hold his unwearied, persevering, and successful exertions in the great cause of Bible circulation, and the important advantages resulting from the extensive printing and binding establishments which have been formed, through his efforts, in his native place. The chair was occupied by H. J. Dickie, Esq., supported on the right by Dr Thomson, and John Dunlop, Esq., of Brockloch; on the left by Commissary General Wemyss, and Mr Grierson; W. S. Thomas Jopling, Esq., officiated as croupier. There were betwixt ninety and one hundred gentlemen present, and the meeting was altogether of a most interesting description.—*Kelso Chronicle*.

CHURCH LIVINGS.—The Marquis of Clanricarde has commenced nineteen actions in the Common Pleas, to recover the presentation to so many church livings in the diocese of Clonfert.

IMPORTANT ECCLESIASTICAL MOVEMENT.—An important ecclesiastical movement, designed to separate or reject several ministers and churches, is at present in progress among the Scottish congregationalists; and the result, so far as we can learn, has been the disavowal of fellowship or union, on the part of the four congregational churches in Glasgow, with the churches and pastors of the same denomination in Hamilton and Bellshill. A similar proceeding is also in progress towards the congregational churches in Ardrossan, Cambuslang, and Bridgeton. The reason of separation, we understand, is a difference of opinion on the doctrines of special divine influence, and of unconditional election, both of which are said to be denied by the churches at Hamilton, Bellshill, &c.; and, on the

other hand, maintained by the churches in Glasgow belonging to the Congregational Union. We learn, further, that the way in which this separation has been effected was by means of friendly letters between the churches differing, and that the entire correspondence, exhibiting an interesting feature of the church polity of the independents, will shortly be published, and doubtless afford considerable scope for polemical discussion.

THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE IN SWITZERLAND.—The friends of voluntarism in Switzerland, among whom may be reckoned Merle D'Aubigné, Vinet, and many laymen of rank, and influence, and piety in the cantons of Vaud and Geneva, are about to take a step in advance. The following notice has been circulated, and has been published in the *Sémur*:—

The Christians belonging to the various evangelical churches in French Switzerland, who, from conscientious motives, and a desire for the extension of the kingdom of God, wish to realise, both for themselves and their brethren, the voluntary system in religious matters, or the reciprocal independence of the church and the state, the only guarantee for true religious liberty; are invited to meet on the 4th of December, 1844, at nine o'clock in the morning, in the Casino, Lausanne, to confer on the means to be employed, according to the word of God, in order to obtain the desired result.

The *Sémur* adds:—

It is not the nature of any theory to remain a theory merely. In proportion as convictions are formed, they necessarily produce correspondent acts. If it be desirable that acts should be preceded by full and serious discussion, it is not less desirable that the effects of discussion should be embodied, and not be lost by useless delay. French Switzerland has been occupied for some time with discussion. The ecclesiastical law of the Canton de Vaud, the recent revolution at Geneva, the efforts of the minority in Neuchâtel to obtain their political rights, the affair of the convents in Argovia, and the civil conflicts in the Valais, have rendered it necessary to investigate, in the names of religion and philosophy, the question of religious independence. It appears the moment has arrived to take more public measures, and of the importance of this step there can be but one opinion.

SUPERSTITION IN GERMANY.—[From the Rhine, November 19.]—The miracles of the Holy Coat at Treves are becoming more and more miraculous. Hear only the following story which the clergyman of the Roman catholic chapel in the village of C—, in the dutchy of Nassau, has related to his congregation from the pulpit, and it will be confessed that the cure of a contracted leg is not worth speaking of. The worthy priest related, on the authority of credible witnesses, that in the procession going to Treves to see the coat of our Lord there was an infidel; the coat, however, when the procession appeared before it, perceiving that this sinner was near, had leaped out of its case and given him a box on the ear (in what manner the priest did not explicitly describe). The coat afterwards returned to its case. Whether this cure has helped the patient to become a believer does not appear. The priest did not need to work a miracle. His faith was so strong that he counseled his parishioners to sell all they had, and even to borrow, in order to enjoy the sight of the holy coat.—*Morning Chronicle*.

Correspondence.

DISSENTERS AND FIRE INSURANCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Nov. 28, 1844.

SIR—Having seen in your paper some important declarations respecting the policies of insurance being void in case of fire, unless the testimony of the clergyman of the parish, that the fire did not originate from wilfulness, and my property being insured in the Sun office, I immediately wrote to the directors of the Sun Fire office the following letter, and received the accompanying reply. The insertion of both may be useful, in showing—first, that dissenters need not be oppressed, if they will determine not to be—and, second, the present state of the insurance matter.

Your obedient servant,

JOHN EPPS.

Nov. 20, 1844.

“GENTLEMEN—Having seen in the *Nonconformist* newspaper that, in case a fire takes place in any premises insured in the Sun office, a certificate is required from the clergyman of the parish in which such premises are situate, as to the origin, &c., of such fire, and that, if such certificate is not obtained, the payment is, and can be legally, refused by the Sun Fire office—I am anxious to know, first, whether such certificate from the clergyman of the parish is necessary; and, second, whether the non-obtainment of such certificate legally frees the Sun Fire office from the obligation to pay?”

“I wish this information not only for myself, but also for several friends who insure in the Sun.”

“We feel that, to make the obtainment of the amount of a claim, for which we have paid the stipulated sum without the intervention of any clergyman (a third party), dependent upon the will, or, it may be, the whim, of that third party, is a matter so unjust and so unbusiness-like, that it cannot be submitted to.”

“I myself have never seen the clergyman of my parish—he knows nothing of me, and I know nothing of him: and the Sun Fire Office has no right to put me to the necessity of knowing anything of him, or him to the necessity of knowing anything of me.”

“I, too, am a protestant, and holding, as such, the right of private interpretation, I differ in opinion from the clergyman of the parish. Am I then to be subjected, in order to get the *quid* for which I gave my *quo*, to apply to a man who differs from me in opinion, and perhaps, as so differing, regards me, it may be, as an enemy?”

“An answer will oblige, as I wish to insure my property, which, if such law as before referred to exists, though now insured in the Sun Fire office, so old, so respectable, and so vast an office, is unfortunately not to me safe.”

Your obedient servant,

JOHN EPPS.

To the Directors of the Sun Fire Office.

To the above the following is the reply:—

"*Sun Fire Office, Threadneedle St, 23rd Nov., 1844.*
"SIR—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, on the subject of the certificate required by the office in cases of fire; and, in reply, beg to inform you that, although the managers, by the 10th condition of the policy, require that a certificate should be produced, signed by the minister and churchwardens, this was never demanded, except when a gross fraud was attempted to be practised.

"The clause relating to 'minister and churchwardens' is now considered by the managers as canceled from the condition, and if you deposit this letter with your policy, I presume it will be sufficient and satisfactory to you.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"JOHN RICHARDS, Secretary.

"*John Epps, Esq., 89, Great Russell Street.*"

[The Union Assurance office has also expunged the obnoxious clause from its policies.]

CHAPELS AND ANTI-STATE-CHURCH LECTURES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR—No one, acquainted with the tendencies of the ministers and leading men at the different chapels in Westminster, could be much surprised at the announcement, in your last paper, of their determination not to allow a lecturer of the Anti-state-church Association the use of either the school rooms or chapels. Of the Baptist chapels I know but little; but the ministers of the Independent denomination are too intimately connected with the Congregational Board to fraternise cordially, or at all, with any movement not emanating from that august body; and I much fear that the congregations generally are so completely influenced by their ministers, in this respect, that when their exhortation has gone forth, it would be most implicitly followed; the people, in the mass, rarely inquiring for themselves; having all their faith and practice regulated rather by the most slavish subservience to clerical mandates, than that true self-reliance on, and attachment to, great principles, made their own by diligent inquiry and practice. I repeat, my dear sir, advisedly, and from experience; did the occasion require, and the time convenient, I could justify my remarks by some facts, hardly credible, save to those who dare to think and act for themselves, on matters not within the sympathy of ministerial approval. Nevertheless, there are some good men and true who are not to be thwarted, and who would rejoice in listening to a lecturer of so good an association. Two ways are open—either to get up a memorial from the members of the church and congregation, to the trustees or deacons and minister, for the use of the chapel or school room, or else by securing a public room for the occasion. The Literary Institution in Leicester square may be obtained, at not an extravagant cost; and I think if the notice of the lecture was made known extensively, by placards and advertisement, you might have a respectable attendance, and a number of members enrolled, sufficient to cover the expense, and aid the society. In fact, my dear sir, this holding back of our ministers, on the great questions of religious and civil liberty, are producing the most painful feelings in the bosoms of many Christian people. There are dangers to be apprehended which seem lost sight of in these days, when a want of sympathy between ministers and people, on a subject of such vast importance as the one now under consideration, will lead those who feel deeply on the question to seek other instructors, and associations where they will meet with kindred spirits, to lead and to encourage them in the coming conflict. It would not be an uninteresting question, in whom the power rests to grant or refuse the use of the chapel or school rooms, when applied for. Remains, yours faithfully,

A MEMBER OF CRAVEN CHAPEL.

November 28th, 1844.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

Birmingham, Dec. 2, 1844.

The council of the National Complete Suffrage Union met at their rooms here to-day—Mr J. C. Perry, V. P., in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Council were gratified in finding that Mr Sturge had been enabled to comply with invitations from the Complete Suffrage Associations of Edinburgh and Glasgow, and that he had gone to these cities, where he was to meet Mr W. S. Crawford, and to attend several public meetings and soirées in furtherance of the general cause.

METROPOLITAN COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday evening last, a meeting of the friends of popular representation was held, at the King's Head tavern, Poultry, with the object of forming a Metropolitan Complete Suffrage Association. The meeting was convened by the Provisional Committee appointed in May last to secure this object, who were anxious to avail themselves of the opinions and advice of all the known friends of the cause resident in and around the metropolis, before proceeding to form the new society. About eighty gentlemen were present, among whom we noticed Mr E. Miall, Mr H. Vincent, Mr P. Crellin, Dr Boykett, Mr Richardson, Mr Allam, Mr J. Thorogood, Mr B. Wilson, Mr Cockshaw, Mr Mabbs, Mr Pococke, Mr J. Vines.

Mr CRELLIN was unanimously elected chairman, and briefly explained the object of the meeting.

Mr ELT, the secretary, explained what had been done by the Provisional Committee. They had issued about sixty circulars on the subject, to the leading friends of the cause throughout the metropolis, and had received about twenty replies favourable to the proposed plan. The design of the new association

was not to break up local organisation in the several districts, but to assist in carrying it out, to diffuse a knowledge of their principles, and to pay especial attention to the subject of registration, and the securing of suitable candidates favourable to their principles to represent the metropolitan boroughs. It was thought, also, that the association might, by means of correspondence with friends in the country, be able to give them advice on these subjects when it might be needed.

Mr MIALL thought it very important that they should have a clear understanding of what they were about to do. The more precise and definite the object, the more likely would they be to obtain support, and act with vigour and success. Considering the limited range of their resources, it was better, in his opinion, to confine their attention exclusively to the metropolis—to excite and stimulate public opinion in favour of their principles—to assist in the formation of local associations—to attend to the registration, and the selection of suitable candidates to represent the metropolitan boroughs. To put forward higher pretensions—to extend their operations to the provinces, would, he thought, be impolitic and objectionable on many considerations. It might end in the establishment of a kind of reform club, to interfere in parliamentary elections, and might appear to be setting up a rivalry to the National Complete Suffrage Union—a society which, although somewhat less energetic of late than might be wished, was still a national body, and had heretofore done great and active service to the cause of complete suffrage.

Mr ELT read the address issued by the Provisional Committee, and mentioned that they had received letters from Dr Price, Mr C. Stovel, E. Swann, Esq., J. M. Webb, Esq., Major Revel, Mr J. Duncan, Mr Harrison, Mr Swainson, Dr Epps, Mr Stafford Allen, and Dr Bowring, approving of the formation of a central association.

Dr BOYKETT, of Poplar, mentioned one or two circumstances illustrative of the indifference of the inhabitants of the district in which he resided, on the subject of parliamentary reform. He, however, thought much might be done by the energy and assiduity of its friends to remove this indifference.

Mr ALLAM said that their great difficulty in the south-east of London was, the want of suitable places to hold meetings. They could not get the use of a room even for a committee meeting.

Mr MIALL moved the following resolution:—"That a society be now formed, to be called 'The Metropolitan Complete Suffrage Association.' He thought it more important to form the skeleton of a central association which might be brought into action at any emergency, than that they should hold frequent meetings.

The resolution was unanimously carried.

The CHAIRMAN said that, although the friends of complete suffrage in the south-east of London were seldom able to meet together, they were actively engaged in the distribution of tracts. Many of these were bound together and lent, others placed in the coffee-houses, &c., of the neighbourhood.

Mr COCKSHAW mentioned that a similar plan was pursued in Southwark. One person had canvassed from door to door, tract in hand, and met with much encouragement.

Mr VINCENT said, that throughout his tour in the provinces the almost universal inquiry of the friends of complete suffrage was, "What is London doing?"

To this he was unable to give a satisfactory reply. If they could form an efficient society of from 200 to 300 persons in London, hold frequent meetings, and get them reported in such papers as the *Morning Advertiser*, the *Nonconformist*, and others of the like class, he was persuaded it would produce a very beneficial result throughout the country. There was abundance of sound radical feeling in London if they could only bring it out; and this might, he thought, be in a great measure effected by the establishment of a central association, directed by sound, energetic, and practical men. The present apathy throughout the country could not long continue. There must be a movement of some kind, and it very much depended upon the friends of organic reform what that movement should be. They might, by prudence and energy, secure a position in the metropolis, and an amount of influence throughout the country, of which, at the present time, they had no conception. Mr Vincent concluded by moving the second resolution, which was merely declaratory of the objects of the association, and the confining its exertions to the metropolitan constituencies.

A discussion here took place as to the course of policy that should be pursued by the complete suffrage party with reference to the registration of electors. The resolution was ultimately worded in a manner to avoid all dispute, and carried unanimously.

Mr VINCENT afterwards made a few practical observations on the sphere of the new society's operations. Let them first confine themselves to the metropolis, and when they had obtained power enough they might consider the propriety of extending their operations. Their great object was to gather together as great a body as possible of electors who would go to the poll in support of their principles. It was especially important that their proceedings should be of a strictly business-like character. The provinces were looking to London for an energetic movement, and he trusted they would not be disappointed. He should be happy to render whatever assistance was in his power, and his numerous engagements would allow, in commencing the new association.

The third resolution, appointing the provisional committee, secretary, and treasurer, was then passed unanimously. Most of the gentlemen present put down their names as members, with the amount of subscriptions they were willing to pay annually. The meeting then separated.

It is hoped that all friends of the complete suffrage movement, resident in and near London, will at once send in their names and subscriptions to the Metropolitan Complete Suffrage Association. Letters may be addressed to Mr C. ELT, High street, Islington.

COMPLETE SUFFRAGE IN THE METROPOLIS.—An influential contemporary in the provinces, a few

days ago, proclaimed the demise of the complete suffrage cause, and sung, on the occasion, a requiem of its "own composing." If, however, our friend had stated that it had been simply taking a refreshing nod after its previous exertion, in order with more vigour to renew its peaceful aggression on the baneful system of class legislation, we opine he would have been somewhat nearer the truth; and we think we are able to furnish our readers with some practical evidence that we are right and that he is wrong. And, in enumerating these facts, we must just say that the good cause is greatly indebted to those staunch, active, and energetic friends—the committee of the Stoke Newington Association. Immediately on the arrival of Mr Henry Vincent from his long northern tour, they obtained his consent to deliver two lectures in that district—a notice of which appeared in our last. These were succeeded by a tea party and soirée, on Monday week, at Gerard's Hall hotel. On the following Thursday, an important meeting was held at the King's Head, Poultry, at which a Metropolitan Complete Suffrage association was formed (a report of which meeting will be found elsewhere); and this again followed up by a public meeting, on Monday last, at Stoke Newington; at all of which Mr Vincent was present, and addressed the meetings with his usual ability. Here, then, are indications that it is not only not dead, nor even asleep; but actually full of youth and energy. And we are glad to be able to add, that plans are maturing for a bold and determined attempt to diffuse the principles of true democracy through the length and breadth of this great metropolis; and Mr Vincent, as one of its champions, is holding himself in readiness to help on the good cause. The meeting on Monday last was held in the British school room, Stoke Newington, and ably presided over by Mr T. B. Wilson. It was numerously attended by persons of all classes, and many ladies. The following resolutions were carried unanimously by the meeting, the moving and seconding of which elicited some very pertinent remarks from the various speakers:—

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the only remedy for the three greatest evils that afflict the body politic—viz., monopoly of religion, as seen in the connexion of the church with the state; monopoly of the franchise, in withholding the suffrage from five-sixths of the adult male population of the United Kingdom; and the monopoly of trade, as witnessed in the corn law and income tax—is a full, fair, and free representation of the people.

"That this meeting, believing the principles of this association to be a practical embodiment of the Christian precept, 'Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them'—pledges itself to increased exertion in diffusing those principles, and resolves, by all peaceful and Christian means, to seek the attainment of its objects.

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the consistent character and untiring exertions of our honoured friend, Henry Vincent, demands the esteem and confidence of all virtuous and Christian men; not only as it regards the employment of his splendid talents in advocating the people's cause, but especially for the noble stand for principle he made on the hustings at Banbury, Tavistock, Ipswich, and Kilmarnock; and this meeting pledges itself to cheer him on by their sympathy and support, in all future efforts."

The second resolution was placed in the hands of Mr Vincent, who, in a lengthened and admirable address, exposed the injustice of all monopolies, and advocated the justice and the policy of contending for the diffusion of political power. The prominent features of his eloquent address were, the truthfulness of the principles of complete suffrage, and the necessity for their dissemination throughout the land. He denounced the use of physical strength in the achievement of their rights, and bade his hearers teach the multitude to think for themselves, to seek their own moral and social elevation, as the best means of working out their own regeneration. The vein of happy humour which ran through the whole of Mr Vincent's speech elicited repeated expressions of applause. The meeting was a very effective one, and indicated the sure progress which the doctrine of a "full, fair, and free representation of the people," is making in that district. We are glad to be able to add that the good cause is again to be advocated by Mr Vincent this evening (Wednesday), at the National Association hall, Holborn.

THE COMPLETE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.—We have much pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the advertisement, in another column, announcing the intended arrival, in Glasgow, of Mr Joseph Sturge, the uncompromising friend of human freedom, and the respected leader of the complete suffrage party. Mr Sturge is to be accompanied by Mr Sharman Crawford, M.P., the well-known Irish radical reformer; and we doubt not but their visit here will do much to revive the spirit of the suffragists of Glasgow, and invigorate the agitation for the redress of acknowledged grievances, and the vindication of the right of the people to full, fair, and free representation. We observe, by the advertisement, that the suffrage committee intend holding a soirée in the Trades' hall, on Thursday evening, when Messrs Sturge and Crawford, and other gentlemen, will address the meeting. From the interest manifested by all classes of reformers in these eminent advocates of civil and religious liberty, we doubt not that the hall will be filled to overflowing. Parties desiring to be present had better secure tickets for themselves in time.—*Glasgow Post.*

COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.—It is understood that the visit of Messrs Sturge and Crawford to this city is intended, amongst other matters, as the first step in a new campaign, to be opened against aristocratic domination, which may be designated "a way to win the burghs," and by which new weapons will be put into the hands of the people, and new vigour imparted to the movement.—*Edinburgh Chronicle.*

NEWSPAPER



General News.

FOREIGN.

Boston, Nov. 15, 1844.

UNITED STATES.—THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

(From our Correspondent.)

Although scarcely able to sit up from sickness, I cannot allow the morrow's steamer to leave without a few words of news for the *Nonconformist*.

You will see by the papers that the Presidential conflict is decided, and that Henry Clay is not to be the next president of these United States. On many accounts I regard it as a great moral triumph. It is the decision of the nation, that they had rather have even such a man as James K. Polk (a slaveholder, and in favour of the immediate annexation of Texas) —in the chair of state, than a man who, besides being a slaveholder, is also a gambler, compromiser, and duelist. Thousands, I am sure, who would otherwise have voted for Clay, have, for the reasons stated, voted for Birney or Polk, or not at all. To instal slaveholding, gambling, and dueling, in the person of Clay, in the chief magistracy, was too gross a thing to be endured, even with the religious Frelinghuysen attached to sanctify the deed, and with the strong pressure of political interest to enforce it.

You will find the details of the conflict in the papers. It has been one of our most warmly contested elections. The democracy, so called, managed to absorb the catholics. For several weeks before the election, the *Pilot*, the leading catholic print in New England, came out with the most violent and abusive attacks on Mr Frelinghuysen, as a church and state man, and because, as President of the American Board of Foreign Missions, he did not call Dr Cox and some others to order for the manner in which they spoke of catholicism at the late meeting of the board. For the first charge there was no good ground; and as to the second, we surely shall have arrived at a fine pass, when it comes to this, that men may not, in their own religious circles, speak and hear others speak as they deem it right concerning other religious bodies, except at the risk of having their sin visited upon them at the ballot-box, and in deprivation of civil offices that might otherwise be theirs. The *Pilot* conjured all good catholics, whomsoever else they might vote for, not to vote for Frelinghuysen. The democratic party had almost the entire catholic vote.

The whigs, on the other hand, absorbed the "Native Americans," and did what they could, by fair means and by foul, to break down and absorb the liberty party. The election in several of the larger states occurs nearly at the same time. Just before the election in these states a handbill appeared, purporting to contain a confidential letter of Mr Birney's, in which he avows himself a democrat, and is made to say—"The democracy of the country must be well satisfied that I am rendering them more effectual service by advocating abolition principles, than if I were openly a democrat." The letter contained other statements equally false and gross, and purported to have been sworn to by a responsible individual, before certain justices of the peace, as a true copy of the original. This letter, with the official certificates to give it effect, was issued almost simultaneously, as extras of whig papers, at different points, in the several states, and scattered broadcast just on the eve of election, and too late for any contradiction. It purported to have been published first in Michigan, but was not heard of there, until it had done its work elsewhere. I need not say, the whole thing was a forgery, and was merely the climax of a policy that the whig party had been for weeks pursuing in respect to the liberty party—a policy, the design of which has been to break up the liberty party, and absorb its votes, by breaking down the character of its chief candidate. The result is glorious. Birney has come out bright from all the slanders heaped upon him; and the party itself has everywhere made a large increase of its vote.

The whigs themselves admit the election of Polk. The *New York Tribune*, a leading whig paper, gives the following table of the result. The election, you are aware, is by electors—each state choosing its proportionate number of electors, and they choosing the president. The vote of the electors, according to the *Tribune*, will stand thus:—

CERTAIN FOR CLAY.		CERTAIN FOR POLK.	
Massachusetts	12	Maine	9
Rhode island	4	New Hampshire	9
Connecticut	6	New York	36
Vermont	6	Pennsylvania	26
New Jersey	7	Virginia	17
Maryland	8	South Carolina	9
North Carolina	11	Georgia	10
Ohio	23	Alabama	9
Kentucky	12	Mississippi	6
		Michigan	5
Total	89	Illinois	9
		Missouri	7
		Arkansas	3
		Total	152

DOUBTFUL.

Delaware	3	Tennessee	13
Louisiana	6	Indiana	12—34

Indiana has since decided for Polk, giving him a certain electoral vote of 164.

The democracy, then, are sure of the executive. They also have the House of Representatives in Congress. It has been supposed that the senate would, at all events, remain whig. The latest returns make this somewhat doubtful. It is quite possible that it will be equally divided, and that then the vice-president, being *ex officio* president of the senate, and having the casting vote, will give the majority to the democracy.

This state of parties makes one thing sure—viz.,

that the commercial and financial policy of the United States is henceforth to be free-trade wise! It equally decides that we are to have no national bank; no distribution of the proceeds of the public lands; and no assumption by the general government of the state debts. It does not settle the question of the annexation of Texas, although Polk will go into the presidency as the avowed friend of the measure. It will take Congress, as well as the executive, to effect that, and it is well known that the party, as such, are divided in respect to it. At the same time, we have everything to fear on this point. The remonstrances of the liberty party, and the influences of your own government, exerted at such points, and in such ways as they may be, are now our only reliable ground of hope.

The whig party is already beginning to break up, or rather to take a new name, and go to the people on new issues. The prospect now seems to be, that the great parties in the next presidential election will be the democratic and the American republican—the latter being the new name of the old whig party, and the party adopting as its distinctive and leading measure a revision of the naturalisation laws. It is, in other terms, a native American party, and goes for the exclusion of all foreigners from the elective franchise and from civil office until they have been here twenty-one years. Some would even go further than this. The *New York Courier and Inquirer*, with whose prominence as a whig paper you are familiar, would abolish the naturalisation laws entirely. In a long article, in the paper of November 4th, the editor says:—

"We would provide that, from the moment a foreigner sets his foot upon our shores, and files his certificate of his intention to become a resident, he should be entitled to every right, power, or privilege which a native citizen possesses, except that he should never have the privilege of voting, but by a special act of Congress, and should never be required to do military duty."

This, however, is extreme, and will not be generally received by the party itself. The present condition of naturalisation is a residence in the country of five years. The new party will insist on the term being greatly extended—probably to that of twenty-one years. Several of the leading whig papers have openly espoused the party, and are already naming their respective candidates for the presidency. Daniel Webster, too, has given his voice for it. In a speech, in Faneuil hall, just before the election in Massachusetts, and just after the news of the result in some of the other states, where the vote had gone against the whigs, Mr Webster said:—

This was not the proper occasion to investigate all the causes of our disappointment, of the defection of the two great states of New York and Pennsylvania. But one cause most to be deplored was very evident, and the result of those elections had produced upon his mind the impression that there was a strong necessity for a thorough modification of the naturalisation laws of the country. He believed, upon his conscience, that the welfare of the country imperatively demanded this, and that it was the duty of all parties to attend to it, and that no man to whom his country was dearer than party, would fail to lend his assistance to such a measure. He said that it was not unreasonable to request of persons of foreign birth, before the exercise of the franchise here, that made them sovereigns, that they should have resided here long enough to become acquainted with our institutions, and to become American in feeling. The rights of persons already naturalised are secured; but he saw a necessity for extending the time of probation of other foreigners. Every American exercised a part of the sovereign power. It is a great duty, forming no part of European citizenship, and therefore not appreciated by those who come thence. Alterations in the law are required also to prevent the immense frauds arising from the illegal use of naturalisation papers. He believed that if it should turn out that this election had gone against Henry Clay, it was from the fraudulent votes of unnaturalised foreigners, and in proof of this cited many stringent instances; and he said if this were the case, he thought we should go to the source of popular power and have the error corrected. He thought this a proper occasion to announce these as his sentiments, and he hoped his friends would agree with him. As to the sentiments themselves, he took the responsibility. These declarations were again received with loud and hearty cheers.

These sentiments of Mr Webster were received with the most significant applause. What is to be the result of the new movement, remains to be seen. Whatever may be the merits of, or the immediate occasion for, the distinctive measure of the movement, it is quite obvious that its great object is to keep alive the old parties, and prevent the issue on the great question of slavery, which the liberty party urges, from going directly and fairly before the people.

We have several items of interest in the anti-slavery and religious world, of which I would like to give you a full account, if my limits or strength allowed. One of the most important is, the trial and condemnation of the Rev. William Graham, for "teaching heresy and error, by teaching that the Scriptures sanction the right of property in man." He was first tried and condemned in the presbytery. The case went by appeal, from the Presbytery to the Synod, and the result in the Synod was as follows:—

"Whereas, there is a difference of opinion in this Synod with regard to the meaning of the word heresy; therefore,

"1. Resolved, That Synod express no opinion upon this point.

"2. Resolved, That Synod find that William Graham has taught in his pamphlet, entitled, "Contrast," &c. great and dangerous errors.

"3. Resolved, Therefore, that Mr Graham has justly incurred censure and admonition; and we do, by this minute, censure and admonish him in the name of the Lord, and entreat him to repentance.

"4. Resolved, Therefore, that Synod do exhort and admonish him against preaching or teaching the error contained in the specifications.

"5. Resolved, Further, that the Presbytery of Cincinnati is hereby required to use all scriptural means to bring him to repentance and reformation, and report their action to the body at its next stated meeting."

This, on some accounts, is one of the most important anti-slavery triumphs we have yet achieved. It is the condemnation of slaveholding, and of the man who justifies it, on its merits, by one of the most important religious bodies in the country. Drs Bucher and Stowe, of the Lane Seminary, belong the body, and joined in the condemnation. The Methodist Conference condemned Bishop Andrews because his slaveholding embarrassed him in the exercise of his episcopal functions. That body passed no judgment on the innocence or sinfulness of his conduct in the thing. This condemns slaveholding as wicked, and therefore condemns the man who maintains its innocence. The difference is important. The influence of the latter will be, in this country, quite as great as that of the former.

P.

The Hibernia brings little additional intelligence from the United States. In the pending elections for the House of Representatives, 123 out of 223 members had been elected; and the whigs boast a gain of four, while the democrats had lost ten. In the Senate, the whigs expect to retain their majority of six. These are balances against the election of Mr Polk.

CANADA.

The Canadian papers supply us, also, with few striking facts. The most remarkable election-loss of the ministerial party was Mr Viger's defeat at two places. On the other side, Mr Hincks had been twice defeated. The election of Dr Wolfred Nelson, notorious for his share in past disorders, seems to have startled all. As to the general impression resulting from a survey of the whole election, we should say, that the question entertained by the electors was, broadly, support or opposition to Sir Charles Metcalfe, and that they have responded by giving Sir Charles a clear "working majority" of about ten, exclusively of "doubtfuls." The Provincial Parliament was announced to meet on the 28th instant.

FRANCE.

The "distress" of the approaching winter, with the want of employment under which the Parisian workpeople always suffer at that season, as foreshadowed in the withdrawals from the savings-banks, the accumulation of sick in the hospitals, and the increase of beggars. On Sunday and Monday last, the sums deposited in the Paris savings banks were 689,208 francs—withdrawn, 740,000 francs.

Letters from Brest, dated the 26th ult., state, that advices from Rio Janeiro, dated the 2nd of October last, had reached, announcing the approaching departure for France of the frigate *Reine Blanche*, bearing the flag of Admiral Dupetit Thouars. That frigate had been ordered to sail for Cherbourg, where she was daily expected.

The agitation in favour of M. Dupetit Thouars being, as we may suppose, now definitively at an end, the *National* announces the amount of the subscriptions received for the purchase of the sword of honour to be presented to him. The sum of 19,470f. 25c. has been subscribed. According to the *Revue de Paris*, the ministry, wishing to "hedge" upon their disavowal of the Admiral and Lieutenant d'Aubigny, intended to promote the former to the rank of vice-admiral, and the latter to that of captain of a corvette. But this is not the only promotion, for the ministers, following the example of ours at home in promoting their political enemies, had advanced Count Joubert, minister of public works in the administration of M. Thiers, to the dignity of a peer of France.

We learn from Havre that six Dominican friars had taken their passage in the last packet for the United States, and two others for Martinique. Eight other German missionaries, and seventeen German nuns, had also arrived at Havre, who were proceeding to the same destination. The latter intended to found a hospital in the United States, and were accompanied by three lay brothers.

SPAIN.

The insurrection of Zurbano is at an end. His followers have deserted him, and he has become a fugitive. His eldest son, his brother-in-law, and his confidential servant, have been taken prisoners, and summarily executed. The Governor of Logrono has incurred the severe displeasure of the government for the delay which he had allowed to take place in the execution of these delinquents. He has been dismissed from his office. Zurbano was believed by some to have arrived at Madrid; others, however, deemed it more probable that he was lying concealed in one of the villages of the Rioja.

The debate upon the "reform" bill was still proceeding, but without creating much interest. On the 25th, the Chambers resumed the adjourned discussion on the twenty-third article of the Reform bill, which provided that, in order to be qualified to sit in the chamber, it was necessary to be a Spaniard, a layman, twenty-five years of age, and to enjoy the revenue, or pay the amount of direct taxes, stipulated in the electoral law. The debate presented no interesting incident, and it was adjourned to the 26th. M. Tejada, whose speech in favour of absolutism had caused such an uproar in the house, had resigned his seat.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE HUNGARIAN DIET.—PRESBURG, NOV. 14.—At the close of the Diet, the Emperor's representative, the respected Archduke Charles, was warmly greeted by the magnates on his entrance to the hall, but the majority of the deputies of the Second

Chamber not only kept on their hats when the Archduke attempted to speak, but commenced such deafening outcries, that the venerable hero, conducted by his brother, retired from the hall deeply moved.—*Berlin Nachrichten.*

The *Constitutionnel* mentions a new candidate for Queen Isabella's hand—Pietro D'Alcantara, Prince Royal of Portugal; a boy seven years old!

Mehemet Ali, being anxious to people the new town of his name now erecting in Nigritia, had ordered that all robbers should hereafter be transported thither, without undergoing the penalties of the bastinado and galleys, to which they would have otherwise been sentenced!

SLAVERY IN THE DANISH COLONIES.—In one of the last sittings of the States of Denmark, a motion was brought in, in order to request the King that he would be pleased to abolish slavery in the Danish colonies. The Assembly decided unanimously, that in a next sitting it would nominate a commission, charged to propose the best means of removing the serious and numerous obstacles which still prevent the realisation of this step.—*Globe.*

A PRIZE FOR THE HISTORIAN.—STOCKHOLM, NOV. 15.—A most interesting discovery has been made in the secret repository of the Equestrian order—viz., several chests full of documents, which have not been examined for these thirty years. Among them are original documents concerning the revolutions of 1719, 1772, and 1789. Most of the documents are written, and some elegantly bound, and several have silver clasps. Geyer's third volume of the papers of Gustavus causes some sensation.

SWITZERLAND.—Letters of the 22nd inst state, that the popular assemblies had been convoked on the 17th, in the canton of Lucerne, to give their opinion on the vote of the Grand Council, which committed the direction of public instruction to the Jesuits. The result of the polls had not hitherto been favourable to the latter, but, as one-half of the parishes had abstained from making returns, and as the votes of the citizens who do not come forward are considered approbatory, the Jesuits claimed the victory.

LOSS OF AN AMERICAN LINER.—TWENTY-TWO PERSONS DROWNED.—By the Hibernia mail steamer, letters have come to hand with the melancholy intelligence of the shipwreck and total loss of the ship Elizabeth, Captain Paton commander, belonging to Liverpool, with, it is much apprehended, the sacrifice of twenty-two persons, including the commander, the chief mate, several of the crew, and many of the passengers. The particulars received state that the vessel was on a passage to New Orleans, having on board for that port sixteen passengers, of whom there were a number of ladies. On the night of the 4th of October they experienced terrible weather. The wind blew a heavy gale from the westward. Every precaution was taken by the captain, who was a weather-beaten old tar, and a most experienced man, to avoid accident; however, on the following day the gale increased to a hurricane, and shortly the main and mizen masts were carried overboard by its awful violence. During the succeeding night matters became most pitiable. It was discovered she had sprung a leak, and that she would shortly founder was inevitable. The pumps were then resorted to, and all hands, passengers and all, worked vigorously to save the ship; but there was no hope, and the captain, perceiving the dangerous position of his vessel, ordered the boats to be launched, and the men to save themselves; which they had scarcely accomplished, and the crew and passengers got into them, before it was discovered that the ship was settling fast, and before many minutes had elapsed, she went down in deep water. All the boats, three in number, now pulled towards the westward, hoping they might meet with some passing vessel, and it was resolved they should continue as close to each other as practicable. Such, however, was not to be the case, for before many hours had transpired the violence of a tremendous sea drove them far apart. Two boats have since been picked up, the first six days after the occurrence, at Sisale, having been without provisions and water, and the other by a French brig, which landed them at Vera Cruz, in a dreadful state of exhaustion. The third boat, the launch, has not been since heard of; and it being full of people, twenty-two in number, including the worthy captain, mate, and many of the passengers, it is fearfully expected that she was capsized and all were drowned.

LORD BROUGHAM AND MR LEADER.—The *Sémaphore de Marseilles* of the 28th ult., announces the arrival of Lord Brougham and his friend, Mr Leader, in their delightful villa near Cannes. "Lord Brougham," it says, "is engaged in correcting the proof sheets of his great work on the French revolution, which appears to be very extensive, and will be published on the return of the noble lord to London, in the course of next February. Mr Leader is occupied in superintending the construction of his magnificent dwelling, the foundations of which are now on a level with the ground. This edifice, of which the plan is of a size, splendour, and elegance, unknown in the south of France, may be terminated in a year, the works being carried on with extraordinary activity. General Harrison, the Marquis of Clanricarde, Colonel Haddington, Sir Dunstan Lower, Sir Arthur Nelson, and the Duchess of Bedford, visited our illustrious guests, who have converted Cannes into a fashionable English colony. Several new British families intend to build houses in the neighbourhood of that colony."

The chambers of the grand duchy of Baden have adopted a project of law relative to the reform of the criminal courts' proceedings. This project enacts that henceforth there shall be a public accuser—that the defence of the accused shall be oral—that the

accused or defendants shall be present at the proceedings—and that the sittings of the criminal courts shall be open to the public.

The celebrated Berzelius has just been seized with a violent congestion of blood; but the apprehensions felt for the result have diminished; and there is a promise that his health will be restored.

The Paris *Moniteur* publishes a royal ordinance authorising the Minister of the Interior to open an extraordinary credit of 240,000 francs, to pay for the experiment of an electric telegraph on a railroad line of at least twenty-four leagues in length.

We learn from Frankfort, that the mother of Messrs de Rothschild, who is ninety-nine years of age, has recovered from the late severe illness which placed her life in imminent danger.—*Galignani's Messenger.*

MR J. C. PENNINGTON.—Many of our readers will peruse with much concern and interest the following extract of a letter from this devoted minister of the gospel, to Mr Sturge, published in the *Anti-slavery Reporter*. Mr Pennington, it will be recollected, is a gentleman of colour, was present at the Anti-slavery Convention held in London last year, and attended and addressed various meetings throughout the country:—

About fifteen years ago, when twenty years of age, I made my escape from a slaveholder in one of the southern states, where I left a father and mother, and eleven brothers and sisters; since that time I have never seen one of their faces. Until a short time since I had never made this known to any one in New York or Connecticut, where I have mostly lived; but lately I deemed it my duty to bring out the truth. Much excitement prevails at present, and I do not know what I may come to. My claimant is living, and has a large family of children. I am liable any moment to be arrested, and shall be for years, if I should live. I may be driven to take shelter in Canada or the West Indies. At the time I was making arrangements to come to England a little incident occurred, which I will relate. I was in the office of the secretary of state for Connecticut, where the laws of all the slave states are to be found. Looking over some of these laws my eyes rested on an act of the state from which I fled, authorising a slaveholder to bring two aged slaves, with their children, from the adjoining state, on condition that he should pay so much a head into the treasury of the Colonisation Society. The name of the slaveholder was given, and the names of the slaves, and in these names I recognized my claimant, and my dear aged father and mother. And this was the first and only intelligence I have had of them since the time I left them—fifteen long years ago! This is the way, dear friend, that things are done in Christian America. This is the way that hundreds of pious parents and children are being severed apart, hopeless of ever being permitted in this life to exchange those parental and filial duties which constitute the sweets of the family relation. What a thought is this for me to dwell upon, that, although I have a father, mother, and brothers and sisters, yet I have no means of knowing when any of these sicken and die. I know not when to record the death of one of them. I may hear of friends in other countries—in your country—I may hear when they die—but of my father and my mother, in my own country, I know not when they die! I feel certain of one thing—I can never again be a slave. And, so long as I am unmolested, I do not feel it right to desert the cause of my slave brethren. My parents are now old, and the chains of slavery must be very galling to them. No one can think it strange that I feel very ardently on the subject of slavery. I have been robbed of my parents, friends, and time. Let me tell any person who has common humanity, that I was held in slavery till I was twenty years of age, and then was compelled to flee, and leave my father, mother, brothers, and sisters in bondage—that I have not only had to struggle against common prejudices, but I have had this bosom difficulty to contend with, and he will see at once that the last few years have been to me years of great moment. I conclude by saying that I do not know what may befall me. I am liable to be seized, legally, in any part of America. If any important change should occur, I will endeavour to keep you apprised of it.

DOMESTIC.

IRELAND.

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION.

Monday having been occupied with the municipal elections, the weekly meeting of the Repeal Association was held on Tuesday last. The Conciliation hall was crowded with repealers, anxious to see the Liberator on his re-appearance after rustication. Mr O'Connell entered the room about one o'clock, accompanied by Lord Ffrench and other leading persons. Mr Smith O'Brien was detained by the illness of a relative; but he sent £1 as his monthly subscription.

The business of the day was very miscellaneous, and Mr O'Connell made several speeches; having first donned a new crown-shaped cap of velvet and gold, amidst loud cheering, he alluded exultingly to the municipal elections, declaring that the repealers had behaved "in the noblest way." Mr O'Connell handed in £1, the subscription of Mr Moriarty, Scottish priest, of Philadelphia, who has come over to this country to raise money for rebuilding the churches destroyed in that city during the riots between the native Americans and the Roman Catholics. Mr O'Connell bitterly assailed "the brutal and barbarous mob that got the authorities to disarm the Roman Catholics and then attacked them." He cited an American journal, which said that there would be no peace in America until the Mormons should be annihilated, and that after exterminating the Mormons they would exterminate the Catholics. Mr Moriarty himself addressed the assembly, declaring that the riots were not only directed against catholicity but against the spirit of nationality and the movement in favour of Ireland. This was followed up by the receipt of some other sums from America.

Mr O'Connell then began his great speech for the day, thus—

Hurrah for repeal! [loud cheers]. This is the first

day of a new campaign [cheers]. We begin again to act more distinctly and more decidedly, and, I trust, more cautiously and with greater exertion than ever. The period of silence, in expectation of aid and assistance from others, is gone by, and once again we put up our high motto,

"Hereditary bondsmen, know ye not,
Who would be free, themselves must strike the blow!"

[loud cheers.]

He went on with a variety of old topics—the progress of repeal, English inattention to Ireland, the "projected massacre" of Clontarf, the rejection of repeal by 456 to 45 in the House of Commons with the simultaneous promise to redress Irish grievances, the formation of the Precursor Society, Lord Morpeth's opposition to the bill for extending the Irish franchise, the foundation of the Repeal Association, the forty-one monster meetings, the state trials and the indictment thirty-six yards long, the jury, the vagueness of the charge, and Lord Denman's saying that trial by jury would become "a mockery, a delusion, and a snare." Mr O'Connell dispensed compliments to the counsel who supported the appeal to the House of Lords, Sir Thomas Wilde, Mr M. D. Hill, Mr Peacock, and Mr Fitzroy Kelly. Lord Russell's declaration that the traversers had not had a fair trial, and Sir Robert Peel's unparalleled audacity in declaring that they had, led to some left-handed compliments to the whigs:—

Some persons say that the whigs were as bad as the Tories. They were bad enough, Heaven knows, and he would be as sorry to see them remain in power as that the Tories should continue any longer there. They should guard against them more cautiously than against the Tories, for the latter were their open foes: but still he made this distinction between both parties—that whenever the whigs were right he was for them; but as for the Tories, he never knew them to be right yet. Toryism consisted in having a power in the hands of a few—in class legislation—in sinking the people and exalting the aristocracy—in exclusiveness in church and state—in pampering a state church, and persecuting every other religious persuasion. The whigs were bad enough, but they had not all these faults; and he for one would never support them into power, or in power.

The whig press received a full share of Mr O'Connell's notice:—

As for the whig press, it had done more to injure the whig party in this country than it probably imagined; and he hurled at it his most contemptuous defiance, whether as regarded the solemn impudence of the *Morning Chronicle*, when talking of the Irish looking for repeal, or the slanderous mummery of the *Examiner*, or that of the paltry *Globe*, Lord Palmerston's paper, which also indulged in insolence and derision towards the people of Ireland.

He announced a change as to the proposition of impeaching the judges:—

Seeing that the Bishop of Dromore had a decided preference for inquiry before impeachment, he would alter his motion to a reference to the committee to report upon the best method of procuring an inquiry into the iniquity of the trial. He wanted the association well and deliberately to consider what steps they should take under existing circumstances.

He made some allusion to federalism:—

Since his trial and liberation advances had been made towards him from many quarters—from men of great influence and large property, who talked of joining them for a repeal of the union statute upon what was called the federal plan. He inquired what that plan was, but nobody could tell him. However, as they showed a disposition to join for Ireland, he was bound to meet that disposition in the spirit of conciliation; otherwise why should he have built a Conciliation hall? During the trial, and after the verdict, he said that their prosecutors might imprison them, but there should be no surrender—no compromise. He said so still; but it was no less his duty to get, in his capacity of recruiting-sergeant, as many friends as possible for Ireland. [Here was a digressive attack on "the foul-mouthed letter-breaker of a fellow," Sir James Graham, for calling Mr O'Connell and his companions "convicted conspirators." Mr O'Connell proceeded.] His anxious wish was to conciliate Irishmen of every class and persuasion. Every man who would join Ireland was his sworn brother. Federalism should be an open question; although he confessed that he did not think that question ought to commence until such time as Ireland should have her parliament; because until then she would not be on a footing with England, or in a position to make her own terms. He had conjectured that there might be something preferable in federalism, if carried far enough. But he had bound himself to no plan; and yet a cry had been raised against him by some young gentlemen (alluding to the Young Ireland party), who thought themselves fitter leaders than he was, but who, instead of reading his letter and discovering their mistake as to his opinions about federalism, made the mistake, and did not read his letter at all. [Here was another digressive attack on the French press, for saying that he had yielded something; with a further attack on Louis Philippe, "a miserable usurper," "a swindler of power." Among the papers mentioned was "the *National*, the newspaper of Odillon Barrot, whom the repealers of Ireland had treated with some courtesy, and more contempt, when he offered to join them." Then an attack on Frenchmen generally; illustrated by an anecdote derived from Lord Montague; within a week after Carnot's plan to invade England and Ireland, formed with his usual consummate genius, was communicated to two members of the Directory, it was in the hands of the British minister. "Just such fellows were those newspaper-men: they were not rascals for nothing, and they were brothers in nature to the rascals who sold Carnot to the British minister." This said, Mr O'Connell reverted to federalism.] Any one who took the trouble of reading his letter must admit, that he never had conceded one particle of Ireland's rights. The *Examiner* said so—*Tait* said so. Every man who read it would see that he was incapable of giving up for one moment one particle of Irish rights. He would give his heart's blood, his existence, every thing on earth, but her rights. What have the enemies of repeal done by that charge? They have redoubled his zeal and his anxiety to promote repeal, and repeal alone. He would tell them a secret—federalism (snapping his finger) is not worth that [roars of laughter]. He wished it so

harm—they might go on with their talking and meetings—much good might it do them—he had great respect for them, and wished them well; but they were none of his children [cheers and laughter].

Having repeated some of the arguments in his reply to Mr Crawford, and produced a schedule of ten "propositions" against the union, to be enlarged upon hereafter, Mr O'Connell successively moved the following resolutions; which were carried, of course, Lord Ffrench seconding the first:—

"That it be referred to the committee to report on the proper steps to procure an inquiry into the recent state trial."

"1. That the letters of Sharman Crawford, Esq., as they appear in the newspapers, be referred to the committee to report their opinion upon them, with the reasons of such opinion. 2. That that inquiry be conducted in a manner most respectful to Mr Sharman Crawford."

Mr O'Connell said he would postpone his motion for the appointment of a Preservative Society of three hundred, as he found there were more legal difficulties in the way than he had at first anticipated.

The rent for the week was £541.

MR. O'CONNELL IN NENAGH.—Mr O'Connell arrived at Dublin on Friday, in continuing his route from Limerick, on the previous day, he passed through Nenagh; where he was received by the people, and harangued them, both in the usual style. He took occasion to utter an admonition on the subject of the recent murders which have disgraced Tipperary, exclaiming—

"In the name of all that is honourable or honest—in the name of your fatherland—in the name of mercy—for the sake of your immortal souls [here he took off his cap]—in the name of the living God, the God of justice—let there be no more crimes, no more murders, no more assassinations, no more riots. Oh, let not again your fine country be stained with human gore [two or three shouted "No!"] I will not be satisfied with that—you must all promise me that there shall be no more murders in Tipperary" [a deep murmur here issued from the crowd; after which there were loud cries of "Never, never!"] It was impossible, continued Mr O'Connell, their cause could either prosper or progress, if such a state of things were to continue [cries of "They won't."] He had heard that those faction-fights or riots at fairs had again broken out; but to those he would say, old Ireland had enemies enough to contend against without any dissensions among the sons of her soil [cheering].

HYMN SINGING IN A COURT OF JUSTICE.—On Saturday week, at the sitting of the Dublin Court of Exchequer, several boys, attired in white surplices, belonging to the choir of Christ church, attended, in pursuance of an ancient custom, to sing hymns before their lordships. They were accompanied by a clergyman, who read the prayers suitable for the occasion.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE UNIVERSITY.—The *Dublin Evening Mail* says:—"We have reason to believe that an active correspondence between the home office and the castle of Dublin, touching the projected re-construction of the Irish University, is daily surrounding Lord Heytesbury with more embarrassments than he was aware would fall to his lot on accepting the lord-lieutenancy of Ireland. Maynooth, we understand, and its claims to incorporation in whatever university system is to be adopted, constitute the perplexing difficulty."

The *Tralee Chronicle* relates that fourteen men, with blackened faces, broke into the house of one McGillicuddy, a respectable farmer, at Trippinagh, near Killarney; dragged his daughter, sixteen years of age, out of bed; beat the mother, who resisted them; and, without allowing the girl to dress herself, bore her off.

DUBLIN.—NATIONAL EDUCATION.—The Irish tory journals are filled with letters from clergymen of the established church, *pro* and *con.*, upon the subject of national education. Dr Mant entered into a private correspondence with Sir Robert Peel, for the purpose of justifying his conduct from a public censure, reported to have been pronounced upon him by the Premier. The Bishop has published the reply, which says:—"I have passed no censure on, nor made any reference to, your lordship. I admitted the fact that, of the Irish prelates appointed during the lieutenancy of Lord de Grey, and whom I expressly named, some were hostile to that system, and I regretted they were so."

PARTIES IN AMERICA.—Of the two great parties, which at this hour almost share the nation between them, I should say, that one has the best cause, and the other contains the best men. The philosopher, the poet, or the religious man, will, of course, wish to cast his vote with the democrat, for free trade, for wide suffrage, for the abolition of legal cruelties in the penal code, and for facilitating, in every manner, the access of the young and the poor to the sources of wealth and power. But he can rarely accept the persons whom the so-called popular party propose to him as representatives of these liberalities. They have not at heart the ends which give to the name of democracy what hope and virtue are in it. The spirit of our American radicalism is destructive and aimless; it is not loving; it has no ulterior and divine ends; but is destructive only out of hatred and selfishness. On the other side, the conservative party, composed of the most moderate, able, and cultivated part of the population, is timid, and merely defensive of property. It vindicates no right, it aspires to no real good, it brands no crime, it proposes no generous policy; it does not build, nor write, nor cherish the arts, nor foster religion, nor establish schools, nor encourage science, nor emancipate the slave, nor befriending the poor, or the Indian, immigrant. From neither party, when in power, has the world any benefit to expect in science, art, or humanity, at all commensurate with the resources of the nation.—*Emerson's Essays.*

Postscript.

Wednesday, December 4th.

FRANCE.—The Paris papers labour under the same disadvantage (?) as our own—being destitute of news. The reported execution of the son of Zurbano is the theme of indignant comment in almost every one of the journals. Even the *Journal de Debats* loudly condemns the sanguinary act.

SPAIN.—A correspondent of the *National*, at Madrid, gives the following affecting account of proceedings there in connexion with this event:—

"Men of all ranks and all opinions had besought the execution to be deferred, and the prisoner's wife had proceeded without delay for Madrid, accompanied by a deputation from the town and province, who went with her to implore the royal clemency. A most heart-rending scene took place on this occasion. At the moment when the two Queens were leaving the palace, the young wife of Benito Zurbano threw herself at their feet, and, with her eyes streaming with tears, and her voice broken with sobs, prayed and supplicated them at least to spare the life of a being so dear to her. The deputation joined in her request, and from the whole group arose expressions of the liveliest grief. All the persons who stood around appeared most deeply affected. The Queen-mother, it must be acknowledged, could not behold such a spectacle without feeling a strong emotion; but her daughter, the worthy daughter of Ferdinand, remained cold and unmoved as a statue. Neither the cries and despair of the poor woman at her feet, nor the supplication of the inhabitants of Logrono, nor the pity which for a moment affected her mother's soul, nor the emotion of the bystanders, could even cause a palpitation in this wretched creature's heart, who contented herself with drily replying to the unfortunate wife, 'The Council will decide on the request.' The council accordingly assembled; and, to be present, Narvaez interrupted the pleasure which he was enjoying at Carabanchel with the illustrious Munoz. No delight in Narvaez's mind is equal to that of ordering an execution. He, therefore, hurried in; and, after the council, orders were despatched, at the same time, for the dismissal of Oribe and for the execution of Zurbano's son and brother-in-law!"

Several general officers have been banished from Madrid, for apparently no other offence but that of having served under Espartero. A report was prevalent in Madrid that General Prim had been rescued by a party of cavalry on his way to Cadiz.

PORTUGAL.—In this country matters are little better than in Spain. The Chamber of Peers, by a majority of eight, passed the bill declaring all the edicts of the government, twenty-nine in number, promulgated during the prorogation of the Cortes, and consequently without the sanction of the legislature—laws in force from the date of their promulgation. The twenty-nine "laws" were presented to the Chamber *en masse*, and all separate examination and discussion opposed successfully by Cabral. The dictator is now secure; at least, from the Cortes he has no more opposition to any measure to apprehend, even to the recall of the gentleman at Rome, if such an event were likely to be beneficial to the Cabral ministry. It is a curious circumstance that all the old supporters of the Queen's right to the throne are now in opposition, and the principal supporters of the ministry are those who took a very leading part in favour of Dom Miguel. Such is the principle of political faction!

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—PRIZE ESSAY.—We are informed that there are thirty-four competitors for the first premium tract: MSS. of that number having been received by the secretaries. There can be little doubt but that the task of the adjudicators may be a difficult one—to select where all is excellent. We may, however, safely promise the friends of religious freedom, on the first of January next, an essay worthy the association under whose auspices it will appear, and the cause whose object it is intended to subserve.

THE STATE-CHURCH QUESTION.—Dr Cox will deliver a lecture at Mr Stevenson's chapel, Borough road, Southwark, this evening, at 7 o'clock—Subject, "State churches contrary to the spirit of Christian law."

THE PUSEYITE DISCUSSIONS.—The *Times* of this morning has the following observations, in reference to the memorial of certain laymen to the Archbishop of Canterbury, published in another part of our paper:—"We have no sympathy with the clergyman who drives away an attentive and devout congregation from the house of God by novelties distasteful and unedifying; but we may likewise suggest to such as the petitioners, that they are not the best judges of what the church most needs, and are neither by their habits or learning qualified to assume to themselves the arduous and delicate undertaking of church reform." This, however, may possibly be going too far, so the leading journal takes the opportunity, in a succeeding article, of pouring out its indignation upon the devoted head of the Bishop of Exeter, who "arrogates to himself an infallibility of judgment, and treats the objections of his opponents, if not with positive contempt, at least with the most summary indifference," &c., &c. The first article deprecates the interference of laymen in affairs of the church. The second deprecates the introduction of novelties against the will of the people. Uncertain in what direction the tide of public opinion will flow, the *Times* endeavours, by using one or in one direction, and the other in an opposite one, to maintain a stationary position until the strength of the current can no longer be resisted. For the present, therefore, the public must be content (to use the language of chemistry in reference to these dissensions), to meet at one time with an acid,

and then with an alkali. The desired result will, of course, be—a neutral salt.

THE FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE NOTTINGHAM RAILWAY.—The adjourned inquest upon Mr W. Varuells, one of the sufferers by this dreadful catastrophe, was resumed yesterday, but not concluded when the accounts left. The coroner had summed up, and the jury retired to consider their verdict. From the summing up of the coroner, there is little doubt but that the verdict will be similar to that given in the inquest on Mr Dean.

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION met on Monday, their usual day of meeting, and Conciliation hall was crowded in every part. Mr Somers, M.P., was called to the chair. Mr O'Connell monopolised nearly the whole of the talk, making a succession of short speeches on the principal events of the day. He opened with a short address on the subject of the registry for the city of Dublin, and moved that the repeal wardens be called upon in every district to exert themselves to procure the registry of those liberals who were entitled to register. He then touched upon a variety of topics. He deprecated thoughtless speculation in projected railroads in Ireland, and having read a letter from Mr O'Neill, defending the character of the French people from the unjust attacks which he considered Mr O'Connell to have made indiscriminately upon them at the last meeting, Mr O'Connell said he must have been misreported if such appeared to be the effect of his address. He never said that the entire French people were immoral and irreligious. He admired the religious portion of them, he admired the chivalrous Christian gentry of France; but he hated and denounced French infidelity, and the sneering mode in which the infidel party assailed religion and the clergy. The *Constitutionnel* had gone the length of hiring Eugene Sue to write libels against the catholic clergy. The Secretary then brought forward the report of the committee, containing a series of rules and regulations for the establishment of repeal reading rooms throughout the country, as a powerful auxiliary for diffusing amongst the people early intelligence, especially on the subject of repeal. Mr O'Connell, in moving the adoption of the report, said that one-fourth of the entire amount of the funds of the association would be given for the purpose of establishing those reading rooms (cheers). Mr O'Connell said, he thought the present an appropriate moment to say a few words on the subject of a new university for Ireland. Indeed, there was no subject more pressing. He believed that means were in agitation for increasing the present university, or establishing another. Sir R. Peel, at the close of last session, threw out some intimation of the kind, and he should now give notice of his intention to move, on the next day of meeting, for a committee to watch over the progress of any steps that might be taken for establishing a new university. Mr O'Connell then made his speech for the day. After his usual preliminary flourish about the certainty of gaining repeal he said, "The *Patriot* alleged that he was looking for repeal, not in order to obtain it, but in order to coerce England to do something in the way of justice for Ireland. That was a total mistake, and he wished the people of England to understand that there was nothing equivocal in his looking for repeal, and that England could offer nothing short of repeal which he would accept of [enthusiastic cheering]. Having again hurled his indignation and defiance against the whig writers of the English press, and in particular of the *Examiner*, by whose rascality, he said, the people of England had lost the confidence of Ireland, the hon. and learned gentleman proceeded to discuss and move the following propositions:—

"1st. That the union was not a contract or bargain between the two countries, but was forced on the Irish nation by unqualified force and the foulest fraud."

"2nd. That the union produced the most disastrous results to Ireland."

"3rd. That if there had been a real *bona fide* union, Ireland would have been entitled to at least one hundred and seventy-five members."

"4th. That the most gross injustice is done to Ireland by the limited nature of the parliamentary franchise."

"England has a number of voters equal to twenty-two per cent. of her adult male population—Ireland not above one to every two hundred."

"5th. Ireland was refused any municipal reform for two years after it had been conceded to Scotland, and for four years after it was obtained by the English."

"6th. The Irish Municipal Reform act is miserably defective; the franchise is rated so high as to exclude from the burgess list about three-fourths of those who would in England be burgesses."

"7th. All the most beneficial powers of the corporate bodies have been curtailed and limited, or totally refused—amongst others—the nomination of a sheriff—even the recommendation of a sheriff refused."

"8th. The people of Ireland are obliged to contribute to the support of two churches—the one the church of the smaller, and, at the same time, the wealthy class of society—the other the church of the many, and of the poor."

"9th. That the most gross fiscal robbery was inflicted on Ireland by the union."

"10th. The union enormously augmented the disastrous effects of absenteeism—and all the evils of a distant and remote legislature and judicature."

The repeal rent of the week was announced to be £493 5s. 6d.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour.
English ..	5530	6420	2500			3350
Scotch....						
Irish	4140			
Foreign ..		6330	3310			

Prices are about the same as on Monday, but nothing doing in wheat.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Beta." Every reader of ours must be aware of our anxiety to promote the circulation of the *Eclectic Review*, and our correspondents must excuse us from troubling our readers with their kindly-meant advertisements.

"Gulielmus." Darlington is only one place of a thousand. The letter contrasting the zeal of the leading dissenters of that town, when under the apprehension of Sir James Graham's olive branch, with the apathy now displayed, would, if inserted, bring upon us a perfect inundation of similar communications.

"H. M." Next week.

"A Dissenter and an Agriculturist" will see, by looking carefully over the articles referred to, that his own letter fully confirms our case.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.
 For 7 lines....5s. 0d. | For 10 lines....6s. 0d.
 For every additional line..... 4d.
 For a half column £1 5s. | For a column...£2 0s.
 Advertisements from the country must be accompanied by a post-office order, or reference for payment in London.

Orders for the *Nonconformist* are received at the office, and by all booksellers and newsvendors. The terms of subscription, if paid in advance, are £1 6s. per annum. All communications for the Editor should be addressed to the office, No. 4, Crane court, Fleet street.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4, 1844.

SUMMARY.

THERE appears to be a storm brewing in the church of England, if outward indications are at all to be trusted. The Bishop of Exeter, in a letter to his clergy, congratulates them upon being less rent with divisions than some of their neighbours; and certainly, if the diocese of Exeter may properly be regarded as more harmonious than some others which might be mentioned, those others must be in a lamentable case—for the peace of the south-west well nigh amounts to the fury of a tempest. The Bishop himself enjoins his clergy to abide, in all their practices, by the act of Uniformity, which he lauds as comprehensive in its object, and wise in its provisions. The resuscitation of it, at the present day, suggests some curious trains of expectation. It had the honour, be it remembered, of thrusting out from the church two thousand ministers who refused to conform. If now insisted upon, with unrelenting stringency of application, it may possibly produce another extensive disruption. At present, however, it is to be enforced only, so far as we have heard, in the diocese of Exeter. We wonder how many clergymen will rebel against this law. Events will show. We fancy it would be as easy to compel the public to return to chain armour and to feudal customs, as to induce them to submit the regulation of their worship to the now obsolete rules of the much-vaunted rubric.

The past fortnight has been singularly fertile of railway accidents, the most serious of which was that which occurred between Beeston and Nottingham, when two trains ran into each other with frightful violence. The coroner's inquest, held on the body of Mr Dean, one of the sufferers by this awful casualty, has been brought to a conclusion, and the jury have returned a verdict of manslaughter against Mr Lightfoot, whose authority may be said to have occasioned the accident. It would seem that, after a lapse of time, railway servants slide into a general irregularity of practice. A year or so rolls on without any disastrous result. Negligence gradually increases. Temerity grows more bold. Rules fall into disuse. Responsibility divides itself amongst many parties. Then come disasters thick and three-fold. Lives are lost—many more are threatened—public attention is aroused—railway directors become energetic—carefulness is again wound up on every line—and all things proceed safely for another lengthened interval. Such seems to be the outline of railway history. Let us hope that every fresh instance of death by this mode of traveling may insure increased safety in all time to come.

The Sugar Duties bill has turned up during the past week a somewhat curious result. A cargo of sugar from Venezuela has been admitted at Liverpool, at a duty as low as the foreign free-labour sugar, under the "most-favoured-nation" clause of existing treaties. Venezuela, if not actually a slave-holding state, has been admitted to the privilege of sending sugar to the British market solely on the ground of the clause under notice. The question consequently occurs, whether all nations in whose treaties with Great Britain the same clause is found, may not claim from it the same advantage. The opinion of the law officers of the Crown seems to be most decidedly that they may; and, should that opinion be uniformly acted upon, the morality of our sugar-duty policy will be like a piece of tessellated pavement, composed of bits of every possible hue. Rumours are abroad, however, that that policy is to undergo some change next session, and that the duty upon our own colonial sugars is to be reduced. Certain it is, that our piece-meal legislation, intended to afford some show of favour to all parties, is reducing matters to an inextricable mess.

The friends of complete suffrage, undismayed by the present lull in the political world, are still here and there active in the diffusion of their principles. They are right. The present is their seed time, and they must sow truth, broadcast, everywhere, and under all imaginable circumstances. They may have to wait, as we have expressed ourselves elsewhere, until the middle classes have exhausted the catalogue of specifics, before they will reap the reward of their industry and perseverance. But let them not be inactive. Opinion, even now, may be silently making its way, in quarters where its presence and its power are least suspected. Deep prejudices stand between them and success, and they can only be removed by indefatigable labour and unwearied patience. They can never be doing wrong in creating public opinion. Here, at least, their exertions can never be misplaced. And it may be well for them to remember, in order to their encouragement, that the incessant repetition of unwelcome truths gradually hammers them into the public mind. Men become so familiar with the sound of them, that in course of time they regard them as companions. Then, for the first time, they begin to converse with them; ultimately they embrace them. The process resembles passengers who have conceived an antipathy to each other, shut up together within the narrow precincts of a stage coach on a long journey. The first few miles may be passed in silence—the next, in short husky grumbles. But before they have arrived at their journey's end, they will discover that, as they cannot part, they may as well talk; and oftentimes, under such circumstances, they who entered the vehicle with a strong distaste for each other, have left it cordial friends.

Ireland! what is to be said of Ireland? Merely this, that O'Connell has opened a new campaign of agitation; and that he has commenced a wordy warfare, the precise object of which it is difficult to discover. "There are nate bush-baters in this country," said one of the Liberator's staunch followers of the humbler grade, to a friend of ours the other day in Dublin. "Mr O'Connell is a nate spaker. I'm a member, yer honour, of the Repeal Association, and I always attend at the Conciliation hall to hear Mr O'Connell spake. He's an illoquent man. His words go right through me; and when he gets warm, and lifts me up by the power of his spaking to highest pitch of expectation, och, by my soul, he is off to some other subject, and I fall to the ground again." This will serve well enough for a rude, but graphic and correct representation of Mr O'Connell's speech to his followers on Tuesday se'nnight. There was eloquence enough to stir Irish blood, but it was of the "bush-bating" kind—it always started off, just as he was coming to the point, in some fresh direction. Practically speaking, there was nothing in it. It might serve to amuse the multitude for an hour, but nothing more. The repeal agitation, but for the passions of the Irish people, would soon sink into the grossest of delusions.

Our readers will not be sorry to learn that the Guiana immigration scheme, of which we gave some notice in our last number, has been rejected by Lord Stanley, who very properly remarks, that the expense of promoting the immigration of labourers should fall, not upon the colony in general, but upon the produce, and that they who alone are to derive benefit from it ought in reason to charge themselves with the cost of it. This is sound doctrine, but why is it not held good in its application to home policy? It is a severe but unintentional rebuke to the advocates of "protective" duty on the importation of corn.

EXHAUSTION OF THE CATALOGUE OF SPECIFICS.

AN old lady who shall be nameless, and who resided in a district which need not be inquired after, though always ailing, conceived a strong aversion to calling in the doctor. She suspected that medical science was far from complete, and she knew that medical bills were very inconvenient things to pay. She, therefore, partly for the love of the thing, and partly from a natural hankering after health, dabbled pretty deeply in patent medicines. Had these possessed any curative power, she would most assuredly have been cured—for she invariably commenced taking them under the influence of a faith which could swallow whole advertisements without winking. It so turned out, however, that she got no better, but rather worse. "Morrison's Vegetable Pills, No. 1 and No. 2," tried their worst to rout her enemy from her constitution, but tried in vain. She gained no strength from the "Elixir Vitæ"—"Old Parr" was resorted to without effect—"Cockle's Antibilious," despite his noble and reverend patrons, did no good. She heard of a case very similar to her own having been greatly relieved by "Blair"—and, of course, she made a trial of "Blair," but it would not do. She found herself getting weaker, more peevish, and somewhat less confident, the further she proceeded—and, at length, her friends, alarmed for her safety, took matters into their own hands, and called in the much-dreaded physician, who, inasmuch as her disease was one only of common

functional derangement, prescribed for and cured her.

The middle classes of this empire resemble this old lady. Politically they suffer under a very oppressive infliction, generally known by the name of "monopoly." As a matter of course, they would rejoice to get quit of it; and, as a matter of prejudice and feeling, they cannot consent to call in THE PEOPLE. They have no great faith in their judgment; and, were they persuaded that it might be relied upon, they regard the amount of national enthusiasm requisite for forcing any decided change as too expensive to be had recourse to, save in desperate emergencies. They think they can cure themselves. They have wonderful faith in the capabilities of their "glorious constitution." They try to force an obstinate parliament by energetic agitation, but parliament will not be moved. They will create a public opinion before which statesmen must give way; but the public opinion, for want of sufficient breadth and depth, slips by the seat of disease, and leaves it untouched. Borough elections are then to settle everything; and the middle classes wonder they had not thought of this before. Well! they are tried, but after two doses their efficacy fails. It is at length discovered that they were never likely to succeed, but that the counties may be easily won by forty-shilling freeholders. This last specific has not yet had its turn; but, doubtless, when it is found that the aristocrat's £10,000 can make quite as many freeholders as the poor man's £100, and that, in obtaining pecuniary qualifications for the franchise, wealth may always get the upper hand of poverty, some other infallible specific will be invented. The sanguine will never want for bold projectors.

We believe the people must now be content to wait until this process of exhaustion is complete. Be the cause what it may, it is certain that there exists in the minds of the middle classes the strongest repugnance to any organic change, and especially to such a change as will secure for all British subjects a position of political equality. So long, therefore, as monopoly is tolerable, the franchise question, considered as a practical one, will be thrust aside as unwelcome. The evidence of this is too abundant to be disputed.

It may be thought that this view of things is calculated greatly to discourage effort on behalf of the people. We demur to any such conclusion. We believe that to see matters as they are, is always an advantage—and it may not be without its use, in the present position of political affairs, to assign our reasons for this belief. If they have aught of force in them, the range of their application will be much wider than might at first glance have appeared to our readers.

We start with the observation that hope, although an unquestionably powerful stimulus to exertion, is not, by any means, infallibly useful. It may, indeed, always prompt to action, but not always to the kind of action required. The most sanguine are not always the most successful. There is, in some men, a giddiness of expectation which dims the clearness of their sight. They mistake the premises, and their ardour, consequently, serves but to push them upon a false conclusion. That state of mind is, after all, the most practically useful, which best answers to the real condition of things. A full belief that an end is to be gained in a fortnight, which of necessity will require a month, may impel to a spasmodic activity which a true knowledge of the case would have prevented; but the unfounded belief will, ere the lapse of the month, demonstrate itself to have been a serious evil. If a man cannot leap across a chasm, however desirous he may be to do so, it is better that he should know it, even at the risk of present despondency. Indeed, despondency is, in such case, the appropriate feeling, and must needs precede any wise exertion; for after its first passionate burst is over, cool reason will take its place, and persuade the man to go round to his point by some other way.

Besides, to every end there should be an adaptation of means—a desideratum which can only be complied with, where there is a correct acquaintance with existing facts. For example—under a mistaken apprehension of the state of public feeling, men may set about collecting and concentrating an energy which does not exist, when all their time, talent, and expense should have been devoted to the diffusion of sound knowledge. Every experiment of this kind, however useful in itself, however productive of collateral advantages, retards the cause which it was intended to serve. Its failure, as to the direct results expected from it, does much to diminish the confidence of friends. It draws largely upon that capital of enthusiasm which, when once expended, it is all but impossible to replace. It is as bad as walking fast in a wrong direction. It not only tires, but it carries the party further from his point. We think we might illustrate this by a reference to a modern movement of considerable magnitude—we mean the Anti-corn-law League. That its means have not always been wisely selected, is evident from the fact that, one after another, they have been abandoned, without having attained the results which were predicted from them. Such means,

we think, could hardly have obtained general support, had the true condition of the question been always fairly stated. That the employment of them has been productive of no good we are far from affirming, but that it has tended to advance the specific object of the free traders, we think an ordinary observer would be fully competent to question.

Lastly, we stand in great doubt of the morality of colouring our representations in any case, or for any object, even to win a parliamentary borough, with a view to meet the wishes of supporters rather than to set forth the truth as it is. Reason testifies, and experience has amply confirmed its testimony, that in the broadest sense in which the words can be understood, "honesty is the best policy." Those who depend upon vamped-up pretensions are sure to fail of resources when most they want them. The pinch of actual conflict must come at last; and when it does come, nothing but reality will be able to abide the shock.

For these reasons, and others which we need not specify, we deem it incumbent upon us at all times to state our actual impressions, whether they are of a pleasing or a painful character—taking care only to make ourselves acquainted with all the facts which lie within our reach. And, minute observation has served to convince us that the time for the people's triumph will not have arrived until the middle classes of this empire, deeply prejudiced as they are against the cause of political equality, have first exhausted their long catalogue of specifics.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

THE cluster of railway accidents—and it is remarkable that they usually happen in clusters—which the last three weeks have thrust before public attention, claims some comment. Journalists, in such cases, have a duty to perform which it would be well if they discharged with as much discretion and impartiality, as vigilance and zeal. Sweeping conclusions and indiscriminate censure defeat their own object—and they who suffer under imputations carelessly and passionately hurled against them, writhing under a sense of injustice, gradually lose their anxiety to deserve a good name. We shall not, therefore, deliver ourselves of a philippic against railway directors in general, nor single out for abuse any board in particular; but, taking advantage of the excitement occasioned by the frightful collision of trains on the Nottingham and Derby line, and prompted chiefly by the verdict returned by the jury of the inquest held upon the body of Mr Dean, we submit a few thoughts, the calm consideration of which we urge with all earnestness upon the parties concerned.

Every traveler by railway puts his life, and all that is dependent on it, during his transit along the line, in the hands of the directors. For a pre-arranged consideration, and for a specified purpose, he commits himself to their power—makes them, for the time being, the trustees of his earthly existence. From the starting of the train he ceases to be his own master. The velocity with which he is whirled through space, the impossibility of his holding communication with guard or driver, the moral certainty of death in case of any attempt to escape from his flying prison, and the utter powerlessness of his will should he discover that he is being hurried towards the jaws of death, cut him off, more effectually, perhaps, than any other agency could do, from the power of making his own vigilance or foresight subserve his personal safety. For this matter, he might almost as well be a brown paper parcel, so absolutely is he without a voice as to his own disposal. Everything relating to him depends upon others—upon their sobriety, intelligence, caution, and trustworthiness. An occasional negligence of theirs—a slight departure from regularity—may be his destruction.

It cannot be denied, therefore, that the responsibility of railway directors is most onerous. Hundreds of their fellow-men daily hang life upon their care—and the safety of those who thus confide in them ought to be a *sine quâ non* in all their arrangements. In the construction of their carriages—in the selection, the number, and the wages of their servants—in the rules they lay down, and in the carrying out of those rules—in the timing of their trains, and, indeed, in all other matters, the first and paramount condition to be insisted on, is the safety of the passengers. We fear this is not uniformly the case. Directors are apt to feel most pressing upon them their accountability to shareholders—and their anxiety to have an easy half-yearly meeting, and a handsome dividend for distribution, sometimes overtops their concern for limbs and lives. No one can justly blame them for insisting upon a rigid economy of their resources. They have a full right to expect, and, if possible, to exact, a fair interest for the capital they have invested. Let them lop off all extravagance, if so it please them. Let them, if their traffic cannot sustain it, curtail the comfort of those whom they undertake to convey. But cost what it will, they are bound to secure their passengers from the possible results of negligence. Precautionary arrangements, sound vehicles, and

servants whose intelligence and prudence may be relied on, they are certainly under obligation to provide—inasmuch as travelers by railway pay their respective fares for a safe transit, not for broken bones—which are easily enough obtained when desired, without feeling a joint-stock company to produce them.

It is due to railway directors, in general, to confess that their duties are usually most efficiently performed. The comparative paucity of accidents on the several lines speaks strongly in their favour. Still, it is no less true, that most of the casualties which have occurred, and which have been attended by loss of life, have been the result of the gross-negligence. We cannot help thinking that much of this may be traced to a laxity of discipline. The strictest rules are useless unless systematically carried out. In dealing with servants who have so many lives necessarily entrusted to their care, every instance of negligence, whether the cause of serious consequences or not, should be inevitably followed by dismissal. Punishment should be as certain a result of carelessness as shadow is of an opaque body before the light. Upon nothing does the safety of railway traveling so fully depend as upon mechanical regularity—and amongst men, this can only be secured by thorough discipline.

Strict discipline, however, entails the necessity, on the other hand, of liberal treatment. That is a bad economy which wrings an extra saving out of the wages of the employed. The very best stimulus to the cheerful performance of duty is the sufficiency of the reward, and the chance of promotion. Where these are wanting, the most exacting severity will often fail. Under any circumstances, accidents will occasionally happen—but certainly they might be greatly lessened in number, if railway directors were duly impressed with the onerous responsibility devolved upon them, and framed all their regulations under an abiding sense of it. We repudiate the idea of calling in the aid of government—but obviously, the most likely means of provoking the infraction, will be an appearance of carelessness on the part of railway boards for the security of the traveling public. And it is important for them to remember that the acts of their servants will always be regarded as the acts of the directors who employ and pay them. Responsibility travels upwards until it reaches the supreme authority.

SELECTIONS FROM THE PRESS.

FIRST FRUITS OF THE NEW SUGAR DUTIES.

(From the *Economist*.)

Messrs Acker and Co., of Liverpool, have recently received from Venezuela a cargo of sugar, bringing with it such certificates of its being the produce of that country as the shippers had deemed needful under the act. An application was made by that firm, through Lord Sandon, for its entry at the 34s. rate of duty, under the treaty to which we have referred. After consulting the law officers of the crown, an order in council has been issued by the government, under the clause of the late sugar bill, to which we have referred, declaring that Venezuela sugar is to be admitted at the low rate of duty, and which will probably appear in an early Gazette; and an intimation to that effect, we understand, was forwarded by last night's (Friday's) post to the customs authorities in Liverpool. We suppose the duty thereon will be paid this day, and thus the first fruits of the bill for the admission of free labour sugar will be the introduction to consumption of that produced by slaves.

The *Morning Herald* of this day attempts to draw a distinction between Venezuela, and Brazil, and Cuba. It avers that the former is not, as the latter are, engaged in the slave trade—nay, it suggests the possibility that, because there is some free labour in Venezuela, that it may be the produce of such, "but at all events its admission cannot—as would the admission of Brazilian and Cuba sugar—stimulate and encourage the slave trade." But why not? Slavery exists in Venezuela, and sugar is cultivated almost exclusively by slaves. It is no more in Brazil. With Venezuela, it is true, we have a treaty for the suppression of the slave trade. So we have with Brazil; but it is said that that treaty with Brazil is evaded. May not that with Venezuela also be evaded, and particularly should it be found that the privilege of sending sugar to that market created a great demand for labour, which, however, be it remembered, would cease to operate as such a stimulant if that privilege were equally extended to all sugar-producing countries? If, therefore, the motive for evading the slave-trade-suppression treaty has not hitherto been sufficiently strong in Venezuela, our policy has the direct tendency to make it so. Where, then, is the distinction between that country and Brazil? Both employ slave labour—both have entered into treaties with us for the suppression of the slave trade—and both, for aught that can be known to the contrary, evade those treaties.

But whether the Venezuelians evade the treaty for the suppression of the slave trade, or not, we are equally bound to admit their sugar.

But then it is said, that Venezuela produces only a small quantity of sugar comparatively with Cuba and Brazil—that is true; but if we have thus created a profitable trade for that country by this enactment, we may be quite sure that it will be met by one of two plans—either will the production of sugar increase, and the demand for slaves become greater; or the more likely effect will be, because it is the shortest and easiest method of meeting the demand, sugar, the produce of the neighbouring slave islands, not being admitted direct to this country, will be shipped to Venezuela, and re-shipped to this country, under fraudulent certificates of origin. After our experience of the value of Custom house regulations in this country, what faith are we to place in those of foreign countries?

MR O'CONNELL'S INGRATITUDE AND RELAPSE.

(From the *Examiner*.)

When an unjust sentence was hanging over Mr O'Connell, and when he came over to this country, a much-subdued man, the most generous sympathy awaited him—and not more, or more warm was the sympathy than due, for he was an oppressed man. He professed at the time to be much touched at the just and cordial feeling in his favour which he found in England; and if we remember rightly, he declared that it had corrected some of his prejudices against the Saxon race.

He now meditates another visit for another appeal to the justice of the people of England, and see with what reliance on our intelligence he is coming amongst us—

"I have much thought upon the impenetrability of truth into England, and I solemnly declare that it appears to me as if a kind of adamant wall surrounded that country, making it impervious to every approach of truth. It may arrive on the four wings of heaven, and with the force of electricity to every human being elsewhere, but the fact is most astounding, that it never can penetrate into England [hear]. Talleyrand said that the use of language was to enable man to conceal his thoughts, and in the same manner it might be said that the use of the English press was to keep up the ignorance of the people. It supported the delusion under which John Bull is labouring, and told him that the Irish people had no grievances to complain of; but I am determined to give an opportunity to every man, woman, and child in Great Britain to understand the contrary. To be sure, I cannot answer for the capacity of their genius, for they have but little of the shrewdness which enables Paddy to arrive so rapidly at facts. It is to that task I am determined to devote the ensuing month, and I am resolved to persevere until I compel England to understand the grievances of which we complain. I am resolved that they shall do so, and no thanks to them."

How gracious, how kindly is all this! To be sure, it is not intended for the eye of England, it having been uttered to feed animosity in Ireland, and that which is the best aliment of hatred—contempt.

Mr O'Connell is the very last man who should complain of a people's incapacity for the reception of truth. His allegiance to truth has not been so strict as to entitle him to complain of neglect of its voice. He has had no other rule in his statements and representations than to say that which served the purpose, good or bad, of the moment, and whether the thing was true or untrue has been no consideration. If an untruth has suited him better than a truth, it has been adopted; if a truth has been more to the purpose, he has had no antipathy to it, forbidding its use. He takes up the one or the other as a weapon, without caring what their nature may be, so that they strike and wound.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY AND THE IMMIGRATION SCHEME.—The committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery society have presented a memorial to Lord Stanley, as secretary for the colonies, on the subject of West Indian immigration. A memorial, taking a more general view of the question of immigration, has been presented also to Sir Robert Peel, as head of the government; and on Monday last a deputation waited on him, at Downing street, in relation to it. The gentlemen composing the deputation were—Messrs Josiah Forster, George Stacy, Samuel Gurney, Robert Forster, Joseph Cooper, the Rev. J. H. Hinton, and the secretary. The Premier was accompanied by Lord Stanley. The reception of the deputation was highly courteous, and the conversation lasted above an hour. In the course of it Lord Stanley communicated the intelligence that the second set of Guiana ordinances had been disallowed, in consequence of the expense of immigration being thrown on the general taxation of the colony. His Lordship, it appeared, was resolved that this burden, being intended for the benefit of the producers, should be borne by produce. So far it is well that the scheme of making the peasantry pay for the importation of their rivals is to be frustrated; it follows, however, that the heavy cost of immigration is still to be paid, and by—ourselves. In conclusion, Sir Robert Peel expressed his entire concurrence in one of the leading principles of the society, that it was by the abolition of slavery alone that we could ever hope for the extinction of the slave trade.—*Anti-slavery Reporter*.

A QUESTION TO THE LANDOWNERS.—Much (says the *Brighton Herald*) continues to be said about protection, rents, prices, &c., &c. Now, we have a plain statement and a plain question to put to the landholders. On reference to the Mark Lane prices of wheat, we find the following prices quoted:—Wheat—Essex, Kent, and Suffolk—old red, 40s. to 48s.; white 44s. to 52s. We refer to the average price of wheat in 1773, it is 51s. 1d.; 1774, it is 52s. 8d.; 1775, it is 48s. 6d. The average price, therefore, of the present market may be taken as about the average price sixty or seventy years ago. This is, we think, a plain fair statement; now for the question. The price of corn is about the same as sixty or seventy years ago; what is the average amount of rents? Are they not double? Are they not treble? Are they not quadruple? Are they not more in very many cases? Landlords, you do not condescend to answer us these questions? but if they should be put to you by your victims—by your tenants—as noblemen, men of honour, gentlemen, answer them fairly and truly, and they then will see that, whilst corn laws have been protecting you, they have not protected them. We find the question of high rents also occupying the columns of the *Mark Lane Express*, and other agricultural papers. One of the correspondents of the former journal, a Shropshire farmer, speaking of rents, says:—"It is no use mincing the matter—rents must be reduced; and I say that the landlord is bound by common honesty to reduce the price of land in the same ratio as he has been the means of lowering the price of agricultural produce in parliament; and that the landlord that takes and exacts from his tenants more than comes from the land, takes that which is not his to take."

METROPOLITAN.

MR VINCENT IN THE TOWER HAMLETS.

On the return of Mr Vincent to the Metropolis, the committee of the Complete Suffrage Association for Stoke Newington, and the Northern division of the Tower Hamlets, in order to extend its usefulness and carry out its object, engaged Mr Vincent, the eloquent advocate of civil, religious, and commercial freedom, to deliver two lectures—the first on Monday, the 18th inst, when the British school room, Kingsland, was filled by a respectable assemblage. George Ofor, Esq., took the chair, and at the close of a few remarks on our present electoral system, introduced Mr Vincent, who was received with every demonstration of applause. The subject of the lecture was, "The History of British Parliaments;" and the able lecturer's object was to show that the democratic principle was acknowledged in the government of this country, though inefficiently operative, from the period of the Roman conquest down to the present day. For the space of two hours he sketched, in an eloquent and masterly style, the origin, and foundation, and subsequent importance of the aristocracy of this country, and felicitously delineated the wrongs perpetrated by that order in framing laws for their own ends, in flagrant violation of the wishes and feelings of the people. Mr Vincent's historic knowledge evinced no ordinary labour and research. His quotations from the early representative councils, showing the presence and activity of the bishops, justified two or three admirable episcopal allusions to the intolerance and tyranny of the mitred order of the present day. He ascribed the degraded condition of the serf of former times to the terror of military power, which, under the present church system, had deluged in our day the plains of India with the blood of thousands of human beings. Mr Vincent, in an animated strain, invoked the aid of all in the glorious work of political emancipation, predicting that no human power could resist the dignified demand of a nation for a nation's rights. The peroration of the able lecturer's remarks, of which the above is a feeble and imperfect outline, consisted of a beautiful and affecting apostrophe to liberty, which drew repeated and long-continued bursts of applause, in which Mr Vincent sat down.

Mr CHARLES ARTHUR, Mr COCKSHAW, Mr BISHOP, and Mr ELT then addressed the meeting. The last speaker warmly eulogised the political conduct of Mr Vincent, whom he was proud to own as a friend. His character was uniformly good, whether in the work shop (composing room?), in public, in prison, or in a happy home [cheers]. They had before them two martyrs—one to political, the other to ecclesiastical tyranny—Henry Vincent and John Thorogood [cheers].

A vote of thanks was then given to Mr Vincent, who returned thanks. A similar compliment was passed to the Chairman; and the meeting, after giving three cheers for the object, separated.

The second lecture was delivered on Wednesday, the 27th inst, to a still larger audience. Ebenezer Clarke, Esq., of Snaresbrook, took the chair, and, in a few remarks, noticed the obligations which rest on Christian men, and ministers of religion in particular, with reference to this movement. He strongly urged all present to make the question a personal one; not to trust leaders, but to resolve to help themselves.

Mr POCOCK, in the absence of the Secretary, read a statement from the committee, which noticed the rise and progress of the association, its modes of operation, and the success which had resulted. It appealed for more liberal assistance, and concluded by urging the meeting to support those portions of the press which consistently advocate the people's cause. Special reference was made to the present position of the *Eclectic Review*, which was met by a warm response from the assembly, as was, also, a notice of the *Complete Suffrage Almanack* and *Non-conformist*.

The CHAIRMAN then introduced Mr V., whose reception was most enthusiastic. The subject of the lecture was the "Advantages of Complete Suffrage as conducive to Peace, Religion, Liberty, and Commerce." The lecturer, in his own masterly style, ably sustained each position, and, for upwards of two hours, in strains of surpassing eloquence, vindicated the cause of complete suffrage, and concluded amidst loud and long continued applause.

Mr WM ALLAM moved the following resolution—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the withholding of the suffrage from the greater portion of the people of this country, is an unjust usurpation of popular rights, injurious to the community at large, and alike opposed to peace, religion, liberty, and commerce."

It was seconded by Mr T. B. WILSON, and carried.

Mr THOMAS AVELING, independent minister, moved a vote of thanks to Mr Vincent, and took occasion to state the reasons which led him to identify himself with the cause of complete suffrage.

Mr GREEN briefly seconded the resolution, which was carried with three cheers.

After a vote of thanks, and three cheers for the chairman, the meeting separated.

Several persons were enrolled as members, and a liberal collection was made at the doors. The influence of these lectures has been most satisfactory, and it is hoped will impart new life to the association.

SCRIPTURAL EDUCATION.—On Thursday, November 21st, the interesting ceremony of laying the foundation stone of a new building for the use of the Sunday school, in connexion with Maze Hill chapel, Greenwich, which is to be used as a day school for boys and girls, upon the principles and system of the British and Foreign School society, took place. At half-past two o'clock, Dr A. Reed, with the minister of the church, Mr H. B. Joula, as

also Messrs G. Rose, J. Pulling, T. Timpson, M. Joula, T. Aveling, and T. James, the committee, architect, and builders, came on the ground, and took their places under a covering erected at the south-east angle of the intended building, the site of the stone to be laid. Several hundreds of persons were collected together to witness the ceremony, and show, by their presence, their approval of the proceedings of the day. A hymn having been sung, and prayer offered by Mr T. James, Dr Reed, in a clear and forcible strain, addressed the assembly on the necessity of, and benefit resulting from, a good and liberal education imparted to the rising population of the labouring classes. Mr H. B. Joula having read the memorial, prepared and beautifully inscribed on vellum, it was immediately enclosed in glass, and, with the current coins of the realm, was deposited by Dr Reed in a cavity cut in the lower stone prepared for its reception. The upper stone was then lowered in its place, and declared by the Doctor to be well and truly laid. The Doxology being sung by the children of the Sunday school and assembly, Mr J. Pulling concluded by supplicating the Divine blessing. The Sunday school children adjourned to the chapel, and partook of tea and buns prepared for them. On the evening of the same day, a public meeting was held in the chapel, to promote the cause of scriptural education. Silk purses, containing large sums of money, as collected by the Misses Riches, Waller, and Simmons, from persons unconnected with the congregation, were handed to the Chairman. The building, with its school requisites, will cost upwards of £600, which it is expected will be liquidated by its opening.

DISTRESSED NEEDLEWOMEN.—A public meeting of the Society for the Protection and Employment of distressed needlewomen and for clothing the poor, was held on Monday afternoon at Willis's rooms, St James's. The Right Honourable Lord Ashley, M.P., presided. There were several noblemen and gentlemen on the platform, and many ladies of distinction in the body of the meeting. Mr Roper (the honorary secretary) read the first annual report of the committee, which stated—

That every precaution had been taken to avoid decreasing the funds unnecessarily; and it can only require to be known the good that has been effected by such limited funds, for the public to continue their support of this institution. Although the society had been established only nine months, the committee felt confident that the benefits of the charity would be extended, and the society prove to be one of the most useful and philanthropic institutions in the metropolis. Since the establishment of the institution not one instance had occurred of work being detained by the persons employed; thus exemplifying, that a fair price for work done was the surest preventive of workpeople pawning goods entrusted to their care. Many of the class of females employed by this institution were persons who had moved in a superior sphere of society, and who were anxious to hide their miseries from the public eye.

The number of day-workers recommended from the institution, and engaged at wages not less than nine shillings per week, are:—

Upholsterers	98
Assistant dressmakers	146
Shirtmakers	183
Staymakers	27
Laceworkers	109
Shoebinders	28
Stockmakers	47
Flowermakers	28
Needlewomen to private families	162
Cloakmakers	147

—975

Showing that 975 females of good character have been recommended by the institution since it was established, independently of those to whom work has been furnished. This number, however, is only about one-third of the applications that have been made to the institution by respectable and unemployed females.

The Secretary stated that the committee had to acknowledge the receipt of several contributions of goods to the society, such as flannel, shirting, needles, sewing cotton, &c. It appeared that the cash received in donations already amounted to nearly £500, and that £336 worth of needlework had been sent in to the society, making a total of £792, £500 of which had been paid by the society in the shape of wages. After defraying all necessary expenses, there remained a balance in hand of nearly £400.

The following notification has been put forth by the committee:—

"That all work sent to the society shall be charged at the following prices, viz:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
A trimmed shirt	2	6	to	3	6
A plain ditto	1	8	"	2	6
A boy's ditto	1	4	"	2	0
A shift	1	0	"	3	0
A night shift	1	3	"	2	6
A night jacket.....	0	8	"	2	0
Petticoats	0	6	"	2	6
Sheets, per pair	0	9	"	2	0
Pillow cases, per pair.....	0	6	"	1	0
Towels, per dozen	0	8	"	2	0
Dusters, ditto	0	6	"	0	9
Cambric pocket handkerchiefs, ditto ..	1	6	"	2	0
Common ditto, ditto	1	0	"	1	6
Table cloths, each	0	3	"	0	8
Neck handkerchiefs, per dozen	1	6	"	4	0
Napkins, per dozen	1	0	"	2	0
Children's shifts	0	6	"	1	0
Pinbefores	0	4	"	1	0
Children's petticoats	0	4	"	1	0
Frocks	1	0	"	3	6
Marking, per dozen	0	3	"	0	6
Hemming, per yard	0	0	"	0	1

"No charge made for cotton or thread. All work to be washed and cut out before it is sent, and, if required, a pattern with it. An extra charge of 3d. per shirt is made, if cut out at the office.

"The work is done for ready money only, and no article allowed to be given out till paid for. The superintendent is empowered to receive the amount, and to give a receipt if required."

The meeting was addressed by the chairman, Mr

Alderman Farebrother. The Hon. W. Cowper, M.P., Julian Jeffreys, Esq., Mr Redman, &c. Lord Ashley said that the object of the society was not to interfere with the wholesale or retail dealers, and if it prevented the extortion of the "middle woman" who stepped in between the master trader and the sempstress, and took the greater portion of the money actually paid for the labour, he did not think there was any one in that meeting who would feel the slightest compassion for their loss. In all the charity which they proposed to bestow, in all the advantages they took upon themselves to give, it was their object to do all that in them lay to encourage that mainstay of the social system—that institution of God himself—the domestic—that system by which the woman might be kept at home, there to learn and exercise the high and holy calling of a wife and a mother [cheers]. It was likewise the object of this society to obtain for all those who might be employed by means of its funds a remuneration of at least 9s. a week with moderate hours of work. Another object of the institution was, to supply the poor with medical aid; and in that very little difficulty would be found; for his experience had convinced him that medical men were ever ready to offer their services in the cause of charity. He announced subscriptions of £50 from her Majesty, £25 from Prince Albert, and an additional £10 from the Queen Dowager, who had also consented to become patroness of the institution. Letters were read from the Earls of Mountcashel and Hardwicke, the Bishop of Llandaff, and others, expressing regret for their unavoidable absence, and declaring their sympathy in the objects of the society. A list of subscriptions was also read.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—BACHELORS OF ARTS.—

The following is the result of the recent examination in the Hebrew text of the Old Testament, the Greek text of the New Testament, and Scripture history:—

FIRST CLASS.

GREEN, SAMUEL GOSNELL, Stepney college.

MARTEN, ROBERT HUMPHREY, ditto.

MILLARD, JAMES HENRY, ditto.

SECOND CLASS.

EDKINS, JOSEPH, University college.

WOOLRYCH, HUMPHREY FITZROY, King's college.

EARLY CLOSING OF WAREHOUSES.—A meeting was held on Thursday for receiving the report of a committee appointed to take measures to promote this design. Mr Bennoch said, finding the impossibility (principally owing to the postal arrangements) of closing warehouses at one o'clock on Saturdays, the committee had decided that the best course would be to recommend the closing at six o'clock every evening, at least from November to August (omitting the hour's vacation for tea), instead of seven, with that relaxation. All the principal firms in the city who had been consulted, had exhibited a favourable disposition towards the proposed scheme. On Monday last one eminent house had set the example of closing at six o'clock instead of seven, which had since been partially followed, but which it was expected would be universally adopted by the principal wholesale houses from Monday next. The report was unanimously adopted.

SOCIETY FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE LABOURING CLASSES.—Twenty cottages are in progress of erection by this society on the estate of the Rt Hon. Lord Calthorpe, near the Gray's-inn road, and within a few perches of the Clerkenwell police court. They will be inhabited each by one deserving labourer's family. They will be fitted up with the greatest regard to the comfort and cleanliness of the occupants, and will cost £3000. The main object the society has in view by the erection of these twenty, is that they may serve as a model for such buildings to the aristocracy who may visit the metropolis.

THE SLAVE-TRADING CASE.—On Thursday, at the Central Criminal court, Thomas Jennings, late master of the Augusta, surrendered to take his trial for having been engaged in the slave trade. The defendant made application to his lordship to try him at once, or fix a time for the trial to take place. He was suffering the greatest hardship from the postponement. A charge of felony, which he most solemnly protested was unfounded, had been kept hanging over him for above a year. Lord Denman admitted that there was a good deal of hardship, but ruled that the trial should be postponed for six months, and the prisoner liberated on the same recognisances as before. The trial was put off in consequence of the absence of Captain Hill, the principal witness, who holds a government appointment on the coast of Africa.

THE CUSTOM HOUSE FRAUDS.—In the court of Exchequer, on Thursday, counsel for Messrs Dean and Candy agreed, in eight government prosecutions arising out of the Custom House frauds, to verdicts charging them with fines equivalent to the "single value" of the forfeited goods, amounting in all to £11,698. They were liable to a mulct of thrice that amount.

LIBERTY OF THE SUBJECT.—At Clerkenwell, ten men, having the appearance of mechanics, were charged with loitering about, on suspicion of intending to commit felony. Police-sergeant Sanders deposed: I was on duty in Old street this morning between two and three o'clock, when I saw the prisoners walking along the street, and knowing them to be the companions of thieves, and house-breakers, I—Mr Greenwood: I must say it is not the proper way to begin your evidence by giving the prisoners a bad character. The sergeant proceeded to say that he followed the prisoners into Islington, where he took them into custody. Mr Greenwood: Did you see them do any harm—any illegal act? The sergeant owned he had not. Mr Greenwood said, if the men were the very worst characters they

should not have been arrested on such grounds. He would discharge them.

WILLIAM BURGESS, the clerk of the Bank of England who, in conjunction with Elder, plundered the Bank of England, by means of a false transfer of £8,000 stock, which was upon the books in the name of Mr Oxenford, and who succeeded in reaching America; was on Saturday brought before the Lord Mayor in the custody of John Forrester, the officer, who brought him over in the Hibernia. The prisoner was then remanded till Wednesday. Burgess had a very jaded appearance, and continued to lean over the bar, as if exhausted.

MORTALITY IN THE METROPOLIS.—The total number of deaths, from all causes, in the week ending on Saturday last, was 914—a number presenting a most favourable contrast to the average either of the five last autumns, or the five last years. The autumn is generally, perhaps, the most unhealthy season; but in the week over which the present returns extend, the number of deaths only exceeds by one the average of the other more healthy seasons of this year. The average number of deaths per week, in the last five autumns, is not less than 990, showing a decrease of 76 deaths during the last week, and of the last five years 946—a number still exceeding by 32 that of last week's mortality.

EXTRAORDINARY DELUSION.—On Friday a commission *de lunatico inquirendo* was opened before Mr Commissioner Winslow at the Manor house, Green lanes, Stoke Newington, as to the state of mind of Mr George Porter, aged forty-six, formerly a merchant in the city of London, but described in the commission as late of Tottenham, and at present residing in Philip street, Kingsland road. The commission was issued at the instance of Mrs Porter, the wife of the alleged lunatic. After a long inquiry, and an examination of the unhappy gentleman, the jury returned a verdict, "That Mr George Porter is of unsound mind, and incapable of managing himself or his affairs, and has been so since the 10th of June, 1837." Mr Porter's delusions were very singular. Mr W. May, a member of the Society of Friends, gave the following evidence:—

Had known Mr George Porter for seventeen years. He first attended him on account of his mind in the month of May, 1837. When he saw him he found his principal delusion was that he had, a few days before, whilst sitting in his apartment, seen two tablets similar to those on which the ten commandments were written in churches, appear in a flash of lightning on the wall, and on them he saw inscribed words from the 10th chapter of Hebrews, 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th verses, and which he repeated with great fluency. He had never known Mr Porter free from that delusion since. Another delusion was, that his brains no longer existed, but that there was a bird inside his head which was communicated with by a gentle spring from his heart, and which was acted upon by the fiend. He would also declare that his tongue had been melted out of his mouth, in consequence of his blasphemies.

PROVINCIAL.

A PATTERN LANDLORD.—On the occasion of the Earl of Thanet's rent-day in East Kent, a few days ago, the steward, after the health of his lordship had been drunk with honest enthusiasm (for a better landlord, or a more benevolent nobleman, does not exist), next proposed the health of the tenantry; observing, incidentally, that there had not been one defaulter that day to the amount of sixpence. To this, Mr Webb, from Yalding, as father of the tenantry, replied in the following terms:—

"I am happy, and indeed proud, in having this opportunity of publicly expressing the great debt of gratitude I and my family owe to the Earl of Thanet, and the noble house of Tufton. I am called upon, as the father of the numerous tenantry here assembled, to respond to the toast just given; and though many here present are better qualified to do justice to it, none, I will venture to say, feel it more deeply. For 150 years my forefathers and myself have been tenants under the Earls of Thanet in my present farm. I am proud and thankful to be able to say so. At the death of my poor father, my mother was left with nine children in extremely narrow circumstances. Had it not been for the great kindness of the then Earl of Thanet, and his successors—excuse me, gentlemen, I know not how to proceed—[here the speaker became much affected]—we should all—yes, every one of us—have become inmates of the union workhouse. I make a mistake—there were no union houses in those days—we should all, then, have come to the parish! Many would be ashamed to confess this, but I am not—I am both proud and grateful to be here to do it. Now, I bless God, by this generous family's kindness, I can come to the rent-day with pleasure, and can pay every one what I owe him. 'God bless the Earl of Thanet,' I say!"

This honest and manly speech told home to the heart of every one present. The above instance, however, is by no means a solitary one of the same kind. Some of the tenants have resided on the property upwards of two hundred years; very many more a century and upwards. His lordship is, confessedly, the best landlord in Kent. He has lately built a great number of superior cottages (having three bedrooms at the least, a kitchen, and wash-house), with good gardens, at a very low rent; and, what is better still, he finds employment for all the hands around him out of work, at good wages. Would that others did the same with "their own!" then would England be once more "merrie England!"—*Globe*.

THE GAME LAWS AND GAME KEEPERS.—For some years past, it seems, the Duke of Buckingham has employed a fellow by the name of Abrams in the capacity of gamekeeper, and that the usual results have followed his being thus employed. Last week, some lads of Maidsmorton (the farmers in that parish being too poor or too stupid to keep them employed), were amusing themselves by throwing stones at some small birds in a hedge. No game

was near, nor anything to justify Abrams' interference, but this man had so long been in the habit of regarding the peasantry with hatred, that he could not resist the temptation to interfere with their harmless amusement. Like a brute as he was (none but brutes are qualified to be gamekeepers), Abrams at once pounced upon the young men, using the most horrid language, and dreadfully beating with his gun one of them named East. Leaving the bleeding youth on the ground, with a threat that if he did not soon get up he would blow his brains out, Abrams pursued the other two with a double-barrelled gun. Vexed at their escape, the wretch fulfilled his threat, and fired off one of his barrels, wounding one of the young men, and endangering the lives of them all, some of the shot being fixed in the hat of one of them. This occurred in the broad daylight of noon, the fellow openly boasting in the village of Maidsmorton that he had "peppered the rogues." For this series of crimes, Abrams has very properly been committed by the Buckingham magistrates to the county gaol to take his trial at the Lent assizes, two of the Duke's tenants being his bail. To the crime of a murder-woman assault, Abrams afterwards added that of poaching. By way of revenging himself on the young man for his prosecution of him, Abrams charged East with an infraction of the Game-laws, presuming, we suppose, on the credence which is always paid to the statements of gamekeepers when they implicate a labourer. Luckily for East, he could account for him self at the very time Abrams charged him with poaching; the magistrates' dismissing the charge being a pretty plain intimation of what they thought of the oath of the Duke of Buckingham's favourite gamekeeper. So at present stands this case.—*Aylesbury News*.

MR HURST, M.P.—Several Brighton tradesmen have put forward a statement contradicting a report in the *Brighton Guardian* respecting the embarrassed affairs of Mr Hurst, M.P. Their bills have all been paid at the usual time; Mr Hurst's departure for the continent was not secret, but well known some time before he went; the sale of "goods" was only the ordinary sale of stock, &c., of a gentleman relinquishing the pursuit of farming.

THE LABOURERS OF WILTSHIRE.—A meeting of Wiltshire labourers was held at the independent chapel, Gostacre, on Monday, to make known their distressed condition. The chairman was Mr Read, the minister of the chapel; the other speakers were of the labouring class, including two women. The tale of each was of wretchedness and half-starvation, caused by low wages and precarious employment. One man stated, that after paying rent and buying firing and shoes, he had four shillings a week to keep eight people—sixpence a head for food weekly. The rest made similar statements. One declared, that but for a small allotment he held, his family must starve; and several said, if they were allowed to rent a small portion of land they would be comfortable. Some spoke with regret of factories which had once existed in the neighbourhood, and of which the reopening would have a favourable effect on wages. The speakers called for a repeal of the corn-laws.

PHONOGRAPHY.—The rapid progress of this simple but interesting science is, perhaps, unparalleled even in these days of discovery and improvement. The author of the system is Mr Pitman, of Bath, who has numerous pupils in all the principal towns in the kingdom. As an instance of the progress of the system, we extract the following report from the *Hants Independent* of Saturday:—

A general meeting of the pupils who have been taught Phonography by Messrs Pitman and Reid, at Southampton, was held last night at the Polytechnic institution, Hanover buildings. Upwards of two hundred persons were present. Mr Balshaw was voted to the chair, and addressed the meeting at some length on the advantages of the phonetic system of writing, not merely as being the briefest and yet the most perfect system of writing ever discovered, but as an assistant in the work of educating the young. Mr Reid afterwards made some general observations upon the superiority of the new system over the old writing, as a faithful representative of sounds. A brief closing lecture was then given to the pupils by Mr Pitman. He reviewed the principles of the art, as it had been taught in the course of lessons received by the pupils present, and appealed to their own experience of the facility with which the power of reading and writing phonography might be attained by persons previously entirely unacquainted with it. Few of the persons present had ever heard of phonography six weeks ago, and yet many of them had learnt to write it with ease in a day or two; many more in two or three weeks; and now there were few before them who could not read and write phonography with tolerable ease. Having exhorted them to persevere until they had entirely mastered the art, Mr Pitman proceeded to explain the "phraseology of phonography," by which an almost marvelous power is given of writing many words, forming the most frequent combinations in the language, in fewer strokes of the pen or pencil than the number of words represented. Yet, with this wonderful brevity, nothing is sacrificed to legibility. The pupils who had never seen the phrases written before could read them immediately, without difficulty, from their previous knowledge of the general principles of the art. Mr Reid afterwards gave some extraordinary specimens of *verbatim* reporting in phonography, far outstripping the rapidity of speech. Both gentlemen were loudly applauded by the meeting, and other addresses having been delivered, the meeting broke up.

EXTRAORDINARY SUDDEN DEATHS OF THE EDITORS OF THE NORFOLK CHRONICLE AND NORWICH MERCURY.—In the obituary of last week's papers in Norwich, the death of Mr David Irvine was announced. This gentleman had for upwards of forty years filled a confidential situation in the office of the conservative newspaper, the *Norfolk Chronicle*. His death was peculiarly sudden, and, from his high character, was the theme of general conversation

for several days. On Sunday last, only five days after his death, great was the astonishment and deep was the regret at the announcement of the equally sudden death of Jonathan Matchett, Esq., the senior partner and editor of the same paper, which capacity that gentleman had filled upwards of half a century. On Wednesday morning, still greater was the astonishment, and deeper the regret, at another awful visitation in the nearly as sudden death of R. M. Bacon, Esq., the senior partner and editor of the liberal paper, the *Norwich Mercury*, who had been unwell for the last few weeks, but not to such an extent as to cause any alarm to his family. These sad and mournful events have cast a melancholy gloom over all the parties in the town, for in truth it may be said, that no three gentlemen could be found who lived more universally respected, or died more deservedly lamented.—*Sun*.

EXPECTED STRIKE OF THE COAL-MINERS.—Various circumstances, which have recently come to our knowledge, seem to indicate an intention on the part of the Lancashire Colliers' Union to cause a general strike ere long.

THE "LEIGHS."—At Warwick assizes, on Thursday, James Leigh, Thomas Leigh, and two more, were convicted of an assault on William Freeman. The men, with twenty-five others, supporting the absurd claim preferred by one of them to Lord Leigh's estates, made a forcible entry into Stoneleigh Abbey, in October last; and in the riot Freeman, a labourer employed by Lord Leigh, was hurt. On Friday, the other twenty-five were tried and convicted on the same evidence. To James Leigh, who, throughout the whole of the transaction, had appeared to act as the ringleader, the judge awarded an imprisonment of eighteen calendar months. The other three prisoners—Thomas Leigh, Flowers, and Watts—were ordered to be confined for twelve months each, with hard labour. The remaining prisoners were sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

MESMERISM.—We have heard of a curious instance of the effect of Mesmerism in the neighbourhood of Siddington, some particulars of which we are enabled to communicate. The patient is a woman of the name of Mary Aidley, about 22 years of age, who has been afflicted with a kind of paralysis in her limbs for the last six years, so that she has not been able to move about without crutches. The surgeon who attended her employed strong remedial agents, such as blisters, &c., from time to time, but apparently without effect. On Friday, a gentleman acquainted with the case proposed that she should be subjected to a Mesmeric process, and accordingly he accompanied the surgeon, and proceeded to mesmerise her in his presence. He made a few passes down the face, about three in number, when the patient gave signs of being under Mesmeric influence, sighing deeply, and her eyelids beginning to quiver. She continued in this state for some time, when the operator, thinking he had gone far enough for the first trial, on such a delicate subject, commenced mesmerising her, by making passes in a contrary direction. On this the patient immediately raised herself up, and stood upon her feet. On the passes being again continued, she began to walk, and dance nimbly about the apartment, to the great astonishment and diversion of the spectators. She also answered any question put to her, but she did so somewhat in the manner of a person half intoxicated. After being completely mesmerised, her exhibition of vivacity and vigour continued for upwards of thirty hours; and, at last, it was thought advisable to throw her again into a Mesmeric slumber, for the purpose of giving rest to her exhausted frame. On getting up from this sleep she appeared rather lame, but in a few minutes she walked as well as before, and has continued to do so ever since. A second operation was performed on Tuesday, and the same results still continue. It is proper to mention that the medical gentleman from whom we have learned the above particulars has hitherto had no faith in Mesmerism.—*Macclesfield Chronicle*.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

On Tuesday evening last, a third accident occurred on the Midland Counties Railway. A train left Rugby at seven o'clock. At Syston, some luggage was handed up to Joseph Woodford, the guard, who was seated on the top of a carriage, to be arranged there in the usual manner. The train went on; and Woodford was seen, for some distance down the line, still standing erect. At Sileby he was missed. He was found lying on the top of a carriage, with his brains dashed out. There is but one bridge between Syston and Sileby, and some fur from Woodford's cap was found sticking to the bridge: whilst still busied on the roof of the carriage, his head had dashed against the bridge. An inquest was held at Sileby, on Wednesday. The correspondent of the *Morning Post* states, that among the members of the jury were the parish constable and a person who holds a contract with the railway company! It was shown in evidence, that a man of even short stature cannot stand upright on the top of the carriages under the bridge. A verdict of "Accidental death," without any comment or suggestion, was promptly returned.

Another accident, happily attended with no fatal consequences, took place on the same railway on Thursday afternoon, at Derby, as the London train was coming in at the spot where a new cutting is being made (joining the lines from the south with the North Midland), the engine got off the line. It was pitch dark. The *Derby Reporter* says, "From the points not being properly laid, the train got on the new embankment. The engine was buried in the earth-work, and several of the carriages were much broken, but we do not hear of any one being injured further than the fright. Had the train been going at the usual speed, the loss of life must have

been dreadful. The passengers who have called at our office justly complain of this scandalous neglect."

The inquest on the stoker, who was killed on the Gloucester and Birmingham line, by striking his head against a pillar of one of the bridges, has terminated in a verdict of "Accidental death," with a deodand of 1s. on the engine.

The inquest on Mr Dean, one of the sufferers by the dreadful railway accident at Nottingham, has been proceeding since Monday last, and closed on Friday night. In order that the verdict of the jury may be better understood, we recapitulate the leading facts connected with this melancholy event, as summed up by the *Spectator*, and gathered from the evidence:—"The reader should understand, that the railroad runs through Derby to Nottingham, and that the station nearest to Nottingham is the Beeston station, the distance from Beeston to Nottingham being three miles. Through an accident which probably could not have been prevented, the up line from Nottingham was obstructed, near that town, by a tender that got off the rails and damaged them. This was about two o'clock. A train was to start from Nottingham at ten minutes to three o'clock, and it was resolved not to prevent it, but to despatch it by the down line, used for trains going to Nottingham. A train was expected from Derby, and it actually arrived at the Beeston station at three o'clock. Howitt, a railway policeman, was sent by Kearsley, an engineer, on foot to Beeston, to stop any train coming downwards, that is, by the down line to Nottingham, until two trains from Nottingham should have passed: he reached the station, but gave his message vaguely. Before him had arrived Mr Lightfoot, the Nottingham station-master, who came from Nottingham to the Beeston station on the engine of one of the two trains whose path Howitt was to clear; traveling on the down line, the one appropriated to trains traveling in the opposite direction. Be it remembered, that all this time there was an exceedingly thick fog. Now begins the most unaccountable blundering. Mr Lightfoot, saying that the obstruction would have been cleared by this time, and that the Nottingham train would travel upon the up-line, the proper line, took charge of the Derby train, and went forward towards Nottingham. The policeman Howitt says that he exhorted Mr Lightfoot not to do so; and he asserts that he tried, unsuccessfully, to procure the intervention of the Beeston station-master and of the guard of the Derby train, though this interference is denied. Mr Lightfoot says that he was not aware of the intention to start any second train on the wrong line: he had scarcely left the station before his train clashed with the Nottingham train, coming upon the down line. Who actually sent it, whether Kearsley, or some other person, does not distinctly appear. The Nottingham train was smashed to pieces; two people were killed; one was so much hurt that he has undergone a dangerous amputation of the whole leg, the final result of which has yet to be learned; and nineteen other persons were more or less hurt: in five minutes after Mr Lightfoot's presumption of safety, his train had converted the peaceful railway into a scene like a field of battle, resounding with the cries and groans of the dying and wounded. Observe, one line of rails is blocked up! it is resolved, very hazardously, as it appears to us, to use the wrong line of rails, and a messenger is sent to the next station to establish that understanding: another person undoes the arrangement, and presumes that the right line will be used: the wrong line is used, death and mutilation ensuing." At half-past nine o'clock, on Friday night, the jury retired, and remained in deliberation three hours. The following is their verdict:—

"The jury, after a long and patient investigation of the circumstances, feel compelled, by their duty, to return a verdict of 'Manslaughter' against Mr Robert Lightfoot; and they cannot separate without stating that, although Mr Lightfoot's error in judgment amounts, in the eye of the law, to manslaughter, and renders it painfully imperative on them to find their present verdict, yet, from the evidence given on this inquest, and from the individual knowledge of Mr Lightfoot's excellent general character, and his zeal, civility, and prudence, in the discharge of the duties of his important office, they are unanimous in the expression of their respect for him personally, and of their deep regret that they cannot fully acquit him of blame on the present occasion; they also express their belief that, notwithstanding the present arrangements for general transition by railroad may be considered tolerably effective, much more might be done, and ought to be done, to render railway traveling more secure; they are also of opinion, that though second-class carriages may not be made so comfortable as first, they can be rendered equally safe; and they also intimate that passengers ought not to be taken along the wrong line of rails without their consent.

"The jury further suggest, that there would be much more safety secured by the general introduction of electrical telegraphs. There was another point which the jury think might be attended to, and that is, that in future great care should be taken to ascertain that all the company's servants are intimately and perfectly acquainted with their several duties; and the jury cannot too strongly express their conviction that Jonathan Raven has not sworn to the truth in his depositions, and that he is utterly unworthy of the confidence of the railway company and of the public. There was another thing which they desired to recommend to the railway company, and that was the situation of Mrs Dean, who, in the prime of life, has been suddenly and in a moment deprived of the stay of her existence and of her support; and the jury hope that provision will be made for her by the railway company, so as to prevent her from feeling, in addition to her heavy loss, the sorrows of destitution and privation."

Thus ended an inquest almost unprecedented for its length, and for the deep interest it has excited. The jury were occupied in the execution of their

functions four days, and have spent not less than forty-five hours and a half in their investigation.

The coroner has issued his warrant for Mr Lightfoot's apprehension, but we understand he has not yet been arrested. It is rumoured that he intends to keep out of the way till the assizes, which commence on the 16th instant, when it is expected he will surrender to take his trial. The deepest commiseration is felt for him, his zeal and urbanity in the performance of his duties having procured him the respect of all classes; and the general opinion seems to be that, of whatever "negligence" he may have been guilty, it had its origin in a spirit of anxiety and over-caution to prevent mischief. At the same time, so impressed are the public with the necessity for the adoption of such measures as shall place a recurrence of the melancholy event out of the bounds of possibility even, that the verdict of the jury has given general satisfaction.

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW EMANCIPATION SOCIETY.—The following address was adopted at the meeting of this society, noticed in our last week's number:—

To Christian Ministers and Churches of every Denomination.

The Memorial of the Glasgow Emancipation Society, Respectfully sheweth:

That this society, originally formed for the more immediate object of urging on the British public the great criminality of slavery and the slave trade, and the national guilt attaching to the direct or indirect support of that iniquitous system in the British colonies, has seen with satisfaction the fulfilment of its long-cherished desires, and the fruit, under God, they humbly venture to add, of the exertions of this and kindred associations, in the legal suppression of that crying iniquity throughout the whole extent of the British dominions.

That this society, recognising the bond of common brotherhood among all the human species, and believing that God "hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth," recognising, also, the duty to our neighbour, enjoined by the Divine law as binding us to interest ourselves in the cause of the oppressed everywhere, so as to seek by every legitimate method the mitigation of misery and the prevention of wrong, was re-established latterly on the comprehensive principle of an institution which should labour for the abolition of slavery, not in the colonies of the United Kingdom alone, but also in the remote east and west, or wherever we know that our fellow-creatures are still groaning under degrading and cruel bondage.

That the society exceedingly regrets that it has felt itself necessitated to lift its voice against the system of slavery, notoriously prevalent in the southern states of the American Union—a part of the world which by so many associations is endeared to us; and whose people, of common origin, common language, and common religion, with ourselves, we feel no disposition rashly to arraign or condemn;—not a desire of interference in the institutions of another people, but a concern for laws and principles higher than all human and conventional jurisprudence, impels us, in a spirit superior, we trust, to all international jealousies, to strive with our brethren not with carnal weapons, but the peaceful arms of remonstrance and fraternal admonition and reproof.

That it appears to this society a grievous aggravation of the guilt of America, that the churches, in the southern states especially, do either practically support the slavery existent in that community, or are its apologists; and continue silently tolerant of sentiments and usages, so sadly at variance with their national and boasted love both of civil and religious freedom—sentiments and usages which deprive even believers in Christ, if only of sable colour, of the natural rights of human beings; and forbid the participation in the means of mental, and so far even of religious culture, to millions of fellow-men and brethren, made after the image of the great God, and endowed with capacities for intellectual improvement, which, by the very possession of them, bespeak the Creator's will that they should be cultivated by education even as others; and rendering cruelly dependent on the caprice of superiors, even the domestic relationships which the laws of nature and of revelation have made sacred.

That this society is convinced that the time has more than come when the churches of Britain are called upon to bestir themselves more than heretofore, in testifying to their transatlantic brethren their sense of this great iniquity.

That it appears to this society, that such a testimony is called for, as well by a regard to the interests of the churches of Britain themselves, and to save them from a participation in other men's sins and judgments; as by fraternal fidelity to the churches in question, situated indeed far remote, but professing to be members of the one great Christian republic, the catholic church—and so amenable, in a degree at least, to the common sense of Christendom.

It appears to your memorialists that, to our churches on this side the Atlantic, God has entrusted as a talent which they must account for, the weighty influence for good or evil, which their decided and combined testimony might exert over the opinions of their brethren in another country and hemisphere; and that it concerns them to ponder well the responsibility of any such direct fellowship with the churches supporting or tolerating slavery, as may induce the belief abroad that the guilt attaching to such a system is lightly esteemed by any of the British churches, or as may weaken the hands of the friends of scripture freedom, who, in America itself, are rousing themselves in the cause of the oppressed.

That this society most respectfully but earnestly entreats individual Christians, ministers, and churches, of every denomination, to consider if the scripture rule of shunning intercourse with one calling himself a brother, who walketh disorderly and in sin, do not solemnly require it of the churches here as a duty to refuse intercommunion with such churches in America, as in their corporate capacity in any way sanction slavery, or receive to their fellowship such as hold their fellow men in bondage, or are engaged in the traffic in human beings, making of the very souls of men unhallowed gain, and abusing the influence which, in the permission of Providence, they have acquired over their fellow creatures, to defraud them of rights and privileges which the Almighty has given to them alike, and to impose upon them conditions of existence which his revealed will denounces as oppressive, and which a Christian cannot, with sanction

from the gospel, exact from "a man and a brother," equally with himself the object of redemption by the same "precious blood," of sanctification by "the same Spirit," and an heir of that "crown of life which God hath promised to them that love him."

Signed in name and by appointment of a public meeting of the members and friends of the Glasgow Emancipation Society, held in the City Hall, 18th October, 1844. JAMES TURNER, Chairman.

EARLY SHOP-SHUTTING.—The Glasgow papers mention that the drapers' young men in that city have succeeded in inducing their employers to shut their places of business at seven o'clock in the evening during the winter months.

PUBLIC BATHS AND WASHHOUSES, &c.—A meeting for the establishment of baths for the benefit of the working classes, was held at Glasgow, on Thursday night, in the City hall. The meeting was attended by several of the most influential gentlemen in the city, and men of all parties heartily united for the furtherance of this laudable object. At this meeting, some leading men amongst the working classes took part in the proceedings, and thereby afforded a pleasing augury of the advantages to be derived from rich and poor uniting in harmony for the public good. As the result of all this unanimity and cordial feeling, the meeting, not content with the proposal of providing baths, agreed upon the necessity of also furnishing washing houses for the poor; and, to show their earnestness in the matter, and to induce others of the same class to follow their example, the Lord Provost and the Lord Dean of Guild increased their subscriptions of £10 to £50 each.

ROYAL VISIT TO STRATHFIELDSAYE.—We can state, from the best authority, that the Queen and her illustrious consort intend shortly to honour the Duke of Wellington with a visit at his seat, Strathfieldsaye, Hants.—*Times*.

IMPERIAL PRESENTS.—We understand, at the close of the past week (Friday last), a great number of cases were landed at the custom-house, having been brought from Cronstadt. They all contain presents from the Emperor of Russia, of great value, for her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, Sir Robert Peel, the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Buccleuch, &c. Her Majesty has received some superb malachite vases, of great value, perhaps to the extent of £10,000.—*Times*.

DEATH OF THE PRINCESS SOPHIA MATILDA.—This amiable and benevolent Princess expired at her mansion, on Blackheath, on Friday morning, after a short illness. This lamented lady was in the 72nd year of her age, having been born on the 23rd of May, 1773, and was sister to the late Duke of Gloucester. Her royal highness was the ranger of Greenwich park. Her royal highness had taken her accustomed carriage airing the day before; on her return, however, a visible change was observed, and the medical attendants were immediately summoned, but her royal highness continued to grow worse till she expired.

PARLIAMENT meets on the 4th of February. Friday night's *Gazette* contains the formal announcement of the further prorogation from the 12th of December to the 4th of February; "the said parliament then to assemble and be holden for the dispatch of of divers urgent and important affairs."

The *Gazette* also formally announces Sir Henry Pottinger's appointment to the privy council.

A *Gazette* published on Thursday, extending to the size of sixty-three pages, and filled with railway notices, contained notice of a private bill for erecting a bridge over the Thames near Chelsea hospital.

POST-OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS.—New obliterating stamps, to cancel the postage-stamps, have been adopted by the General Post-office. Within the London district the obliterating stamp is oval, with a serrated border, and a circular rim within, enclosing the number of the receiving house at which the letter is posted. The stamp for letters posted in the London district for the country is similar, with a square lozenge; on letters posted from the provinces for London, it is striped at top and bottom, with semicircular marks at the sides, and the official number of the post-town; the Irish stamp is a square; the Scotch a parallelogram. In all cases of complaint, or of delay in delivery, the cover of the letter or newspaper supposed to have been detained should be sent under cover to the secretary of the Post office. Newspapers which frequently fail should in all cases be named to the secretary; who will, upon application, cause them to be put "on check," both in the office in town and in the country.

THE FIRST GREAT LEAGUE MEETING in Covent Garden, for opening a new campaign against monopoly, will be held on Wednesday the 11th of December, when the chairman will detail the measures that have been taken, and the progress that has been made, during the parliamentary recess.—*League*.

MR JOHN THOROGOOD.—It was stated in our (the *Times*) police report on the 30th of August last, that this individual had been charged with felony by Mr C. W. Leonard, and that the magistrate dismissed the charge. Subsequently, Mr Thorogood commenced proceedings against his prosecutor, which he has relinquished in consequence of receiving an apology, dated London, Oct. 10th, of which the following is a copy:—

"Sir—As the party who preferred against you the charge of stealing two account books, I think it right to say I am convinced I was wholly wrong in preferring that charge against you, and that I had no foundation for that charge, the question between us being, whether you had a lien upon, and were entitled to retain, the two books in question until the claim you had against me was paid; and I write this letter for the purpose of removing any false impression that may have been raised against your character, founded upon that erroneous charge. I am, sir, yours obediently,

"Mr John Thorogood. C. W. LEONARD."

Miscellaneous.

THE TIMBER, WOOL, AND GUANO TRADES.—It is said that the above trades are the only ones in which large sums of money have not been lost by importers during the present year, and it is a fact worthy of notice, that in two out of three of these trades the protective system has been in whole, or in part, abandoned during the last four years. It will be remembered that one of Sir Robert Peel's earliest measures was to diminish the amount of protection on colonial timber, and that it was most confidently predicted at the time that the colonists would be ruined by the change. The result has shown that this was a false prophecy, for the timber trade has never been in a more healthy or prosperous state. This is partly the result of the breaking up of a system of speculation and overtrading, but still more of the revival of trade and commerce. People have once more begun to build houses, mills, warehouses, and ships, and the result has been to create a brisk demand for timber, and to show that commercial and manufacturing prosperity are of infinitely more value to the timber trade than all the protecting duties that ever were invented. Another trade which has prospered, either in consequence or in spite of the repeal of protective duties, is that of sheep's wool. The repeal of the duty of 1d. a pound on foreign wool has not only been followed by a great briskness in the demand for that kind of wool, but also by equal briskness in the demand for colonial and British wools, to which the duty served as a protection. They have seldom sold better than during the present year, and although it would be too much to say that this is owing to the change in the duties, yet it is clear that the change has had no injurious effect upon the wool growers, whilst it has greatly benefited the manufacturers and all dependent upon them. The import of colonial wool, which twenty years ago was a mere nothing, has now reached the large amount of 70,000 bales from Australia alone.—*Liverpool Times*.

The French have introduced a new manufacture, of stockings made wholly of India rubber thread: they are made by machines, and are said to be excellent in preventing rheumatic pains.

EXTRAORDINARY LUSUS NATURÆ.—There is now, in New York, one of the most remarkable specimens of nature's fantastic workmanship that has ever been presented to the eye of the most curious searcher into the arcana of her multiform productions. This rare combination of proportions without model, symmetry without beauty, and excess without deformity, is in the person of a male infant, born some short time since of highly respectable parents, in New Oxford, Adam's county, Pennsylvania. The size is a little above the average of new-born infants; the formation of every limb and external organ is as perfect as can be imagined. The wonder, however, is the plurality of heads, there being two perfectly distinct heads and necks, entirely disjointed and independent of each other, as far down as the point of contact at the lower vertebrae of the neck. The formation of these members, the heads especially, presents the highest indications of cerebral organisation, and, as is observed in almost every such case, the expression of the features of the face is placid, mild, and, if the term may be applied to infants, intelligent. The contour of the whole figure is so remarkably graceful, symmetrical, and elegant, that the spectator is at once struck with it, and more readily imagines himself regarding a classic model after the antique than a vagary of the plastic powers of nature. In most cases, a survey of objects coming under the epithet of unnatural is accompanied by a feeling of repulsion, disgust, or abhorrence—just according to the susceptibility of the individual; in the present no such sensation is felt; but, on the contrary, an emotion is excited very much akin to that felt in contemplating an elegant design of the first of all originals—the human figure; and it is only upon looking at the head—which is truly an object of wonder and admiration more than vulgar curiosity—that one is reminded of the distinctive feature of the object, and which is felt in reality to be one of excess rather than deformity. Dr Pfeiffer, principal of the New Oxford Medical Institute—the gentleman who was professionally engaged in the case—has brought the subject to this city for exhibition; not, however, for the satisfaction of vulgar curiosity, but more particularly for the profession. The proceeds will be applied to the benefit of the New Oxford Medical Institute.

A ROTHSCHILD IN WANT OF SIX SOUS.—The *Charivari* tells a story about a millionaire of European renown, which is said to be "founded on fact." The anecdote is evidently disguised by the artificial cookery of the Parisian Punch; but it does not seem difficult to pick out the real "fact." The day was very wet; and a gentleman, wrapped in a pelisse, hastily got into an omnibus, at the corner of the Rue Lafitte. At the Rue de Richelieu, opposite the Exchange, he alighted, and was going off; when the conductor stopped him with a demand for his six sous. The gentleman felt in his pocket, but he had no change. The conductor waxed angry. "I am M. de Rothschild," said the gentleman; "there is my card." "Never heard of you," said the man: "give me my six sous." The banker was in haste: "I have only an order for a million," he said, "give me change"—handing a coupon of five per cent rentes for 50,000 francs. The conductor stared, and the passengers began to laugh. Just then an agent de change came by, and M. de Rothschild borrowed the six sous. The conductor was seized with remorseful respect; and, on turning to M. de Rothschild, he said, "If you want ten francs, sir, I don't mind lending them to you."

EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

The Queen has been fined "seven and sixpence," for allowing six weeks to pass over before registering the birth of Master Alfred!

There have been upwards of 800 fires in London during the present year.

The *Dublin Warder* denounces Sir Robert Peel as "a selfish, hollow hearted, treacherous, and weak poltroon!"

A FACT.—In the window of the Servants' Registry office, in Wells, may be seen, "Place wanted, by a young woman, as cook, in a respectable family, where a pious footman is kept, of high church principles."

Mr Joseph Brown, of the Minorities, has invented swing sofas, beds, &c., so contrived as to preserve a perfect equilibrium in all the pitching and motions of a vessel at sea. The object is to prevent seasickness.

A splendid statue of Sir Richard Whittington, the hero of the nursery tale, and thrice Lord Mayor of London, has just been erected at the new Royal Exchange. It weighs 3½ tons.

Thursday last was observed throughout the bounds of the free presbytery of Glasgow as a day of thanksgiving for the late abundant harvest, and also for the revival of trade.

THE NORTHERN STAR.—After an existence of seven years, from October 1837, to November 23, 1844, this chartist journal took its departure from Leeds on Saturday last, to try its fortune in that region wherein so many adventurers have made similar experiments.

The inmates of Hardwood House, Cheshire, in going to their parish church, pass out of the province of Canterbury into that of York; go through two counties, Staffordshire and Cheshire; three parishes, Wolstanton, Audley, and Lawton; three constabularies, Tunstall, Chell, and Nantwich; and the two dioceses of Lichfield and Chester.

An ingenious firm in Manchester, of the name of G. and A. Falkner, having discovered a process of printing progressive numbers with astonishing rapidity and accuracy, actually print in Manchester the check tickets used on the railways at Bristol, Gloucester, &c., transmitting supplies each week in boxes furnished with duplicate keys.

The *Christian Examiner*, a New York paper, complains that the English press plagiarises American publications; and mentions two books sold in London, and two articles (or three, for the text is not very clear), pilfered from the complaining journal—all unitarian works. This is an amusing charge to come across the Atlantic, when shoals of English works and writings are regularly "plagiarised" and pirated on the other side.

Mr Emerson Tennent has presented to the Natural History society of Belfast a living camelion, caught by himself in the garden of the Greek convent on Mount Calvary. The gift of the creature that changes its colours so easily, provokes from a whig journalist the remark, that from Mr Tennent it is very appropriate; perhaps it would have been still more appropriate from Lord Palmerston, who also has been abroad this autumn.—*Spectator*.

AN AFFECTIONATE LETTER.—David Fender, "popping the question" in a letter, concluded thus:—"And should you say yes, dear Mary, I will truly be your D. Fender."

AN ECONOMICAL EDITOR.—The *Boston Cultivator*, after stating certain facts, remarks:—"We could make a chapter of reflections, but as those of our readers will be quite as good as ours, we leave each one to supply his own."

GEMS OF FASHIONABLE PHILOSOPHY.—The man who would be helped to soup a second time is a savage—Raleigh may have been a great man, but he must have had a vulgar mind, or he would never have introduced tobacco and potatoes into his native land. He that can eat with a steel fork is a cannibal, but he that can put a knife to his mouth is a madman, who might become a suicide.—*Punch's Pocket Book* for 1845.

IMPORTANT TO ALDERMEN!—Turtle soup is to be almost as cheap as mock turtle, in consequence of the adoption of a new plan, which has been patented, of killing the turtle at Honduras and bringing the best portions of the animal to England in air-tight tin cases; thereby causing immense saving.

THE WILL FORGERS.—The Agincourt, with Barber and Fletcher on board, was at Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope, on the 18th of September. There had been no deaths on board except a soldier and child.

WORTHY THE ATTENTION OF MINISTERS.—Wanted, any place in the present cabinet, for an active young man who has traveled in Egypt, Jerusalem, Syria, &c. His father is convinced that "he never will bring disgrace on the high and influential name which he bears, and that he will be found a useful and efficient servant." Anybody treated with. Address, the Marquis of Londonderry, Holderness-house. N.B. The young man has no objection to go abroad for the benefit of his country.—*Punch*.

COMMERCIAL CURIOSITY.—A gentleman, near Aylesbury, has in his possession a Bank of England note for sixpence, issued in the year 1700, of which the following is an exact copy:—

"No. 165.

"I promise to pay to T. Caddel or bearer, on demand, the summe of sixpence.—London, 8th day of May, 1700.

"For the Governor and Company of the Bank of England,

JOHN WAGE."

The sum of 50 guineas has been offered for this curiosity, and refused.—*Aylesbury News*.

Religious Intelligence.

UPWELL, NORFOLK.—In this very extensive and populous village, the church and congregation under the pastoral care of Mr James Porter have just completed the erection of a large, handsome, and substantial chapel, for the use of the baptist denomination. This building stands in the centre of a spacious piece of land, which will be set apart and laid out for a public cemetery. On Thursday, the 21st of November, this place was opened for divine worship, in accordance with the following previous arrangement:—In the morning, after devotional exercises, conducted by Mr J. C. Pike, of Wisbeach, and Mr R. Roff, of Cambridge, Dr W. H. Murch, late president of Stepney college, delivered a very suitable, instructive, and impressive discourse, from Psalm xxvi. 8—"Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth." This service Mr J. T. Wigner, of Lynn, concluded with prayer. In the afternoon, a meeting was held for ministerial addresses, over which Mr R. Roff presided; on which occasion, several gentlemen delighted the assembly by their appropriate speeches. In the evening, after the reading of the scriptures and prayer by Mr R. Roff, Mr J. E. Simmons, M.A., of Bluntisham, preached an encouraging sermon, from 2 Peter iii. 9. The services of the day were concluded with prayer by Mr Smart (primitive methodist), of Lakeshead. On the succeeding Sabbath (the 24th), an admirable discourse was delivered by each of the following gentlemen:—In the morning, by Dr Murch, from Heb. iv. 9; in the afternoon, by Mr J. C. Pike, from Matt. vi. 10; and in the evening, by Mr M. H. Crofts, of Ramsey, from 1 John v. 10. Between £50 and £60 were collected; and as to the remaining debt of more than £400, it was generously resolved by the trustees then present, in the hope of assistance from sister churches and other sources, that the chapel should not be mortgaged to meet this demand.

The newly-formed congregational church assembled in the Seamen's Academy, Dock street, Leith, have given a unanimous call to Mr Ebenezer Kennedy, late of the Glasgow Theological Academy, to become their pastor.

MAIDENHEAD.—The services connected with the ordination of Mr Thomas Davies, late of Highbury college, as pastor of the congregational church at Maidenhead, were held on Tuesday, the 26th of November. Mr J. Haydon, of High Wycombe, commenced the morning service by reading the scriptures and prayer. Mr J. H. Godwin, resident tutor of Highbury college, delivered an introductory discourse, full of convincing argument, from the words, "My kingdom is not of this world." The questions, addressed to the pastor and to one of the deacons, were put by Mr J. Rowland, of Henley; after which, Mr S. Curwen, of Reading, engaged in solemn prayer, for the Divine blessing to rest on the young minister. Dr Leifchild, of London, then gave the charge, from Malachi ii. 6, 7, which was characterised by his usual power and practical wisdom. After the morning service, upwards of 150 members of the congregation and friends sat down to dinner at the town hall, which was kindly granted for the occasion by Mr Higgs, the mayor. After the cloth was removed, interesting addresses were delivered by Dr Leifchild, Messrs J. H. Godwin, W. Legge, S. Curwen, Woodhouse, of London, and the newly-ordained pastor, who presided. In the evening, Mr W. Legge, B.A., of Reading, preached an admirable and impressive sermon to the people, from 2 Thess. ii. 19. The following ministers also took part in the services:—Messrs Harsant, of Beaconsfield; Weston, of Woburn; Porter, of Staines; Hall, of Poyle; Armitage, of Carleon; Woodhouse, (Countess of Huntingdon's connexion), of London; and Flemming and Conder, of Highbury college. The services were attended by very crowded congregations, comprising many friends of other denominations.

BIRTHS.

Nov. 28, the wife of Mr T. B. MILLARD, currier, Andover, Hants, of a son.

Nov. 27, at 5, Palmer terrace, Holloway road, the wife of Dr Matheson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 23, at the Baptist chapel, Leeming street, Preston, by Mr John Edwards, minister, Mr ALEXANDER ALSTON, of Highton cottage, to Miss DEWHURST, of Ribblesdale.

Nov. 24, at the Countess of Huntingdon's chapel, Bath, by Mr John Owen, minister, Mr JAMES THOMAS, of the Lower Borough walls, to Miss ELIZABETH RUSSELL, of Oak street.

Nov. 25, at St John chapel, Halifax, by the pastor, Mr James Priddy, Mr DANIEL CARTER, of Sowerby, to Miss RACHEL WHITLEY, of Ovenden.

Nov. 25, at the independent chapel, Devizes, by the pastor, Mr R. Elliott, Mr JOHN HILL, grocer, Newbury, to ELIZA, daughter of Mr Wm FRANCIS, of Devizes.

Nov. 25, at Highbury chapel, Cheltenham, by Mr A. Morton Brown, minister, Mr THOMAS MORTIMER to Miss GRACE COOPER.

Nov. 25, at St Paul's chapel, Wigan, by Mr W. Roaf, minister, Mr THOMAS CARRUTHERS, agent to Messrs P. Dixon and Sons, Carlisle, to HANNAH, daughter of Mr Peter LATHAM, of Wigan.

Nov. 25, at the Countess of Huntingdon's chapel, Bath, by Mr John Owen, minister, Mr WILLIAM COLLINS, of Swangate, Dorsetshire, to ANN, daughter of the late Mr David WALPOLE, of Kaelmarsh, Northamptonshire.

Nov. 25, at the independent chapel, Rothwell, Northamptonshire, by Mr Richard Jessop, minister, Mr CHARLES SHARMAN to Miss ANN SIBRELL.

Nov. 26, at the independent chapel, South Petherton, J. S. R. PITTARD, Esq., of Rodwell house, Kingsbury Episcopi, to REBECCA, only daughter of Mr E. POTTERIDGE, minister, of South Petherton.

Nov. 27, at Wargrave, Berks, by Mr Sydney Smith, PERCY, fourth son of George SMITH, Esq., of Stubber's park, Essex, to MARY, eldest daughter of Mr MAYNARD, of Kenton's, in the above parish.

Nov. 27, at Eastbrook chapel, Bradford, Yorkshire, by Mr J. M'OWAN, minister, Mr JAMES GRIMSHAW, cloth manufacturer, Calverley, to MARIA, daughter of Mr Wm KELLET, cloth manufacturer, of the same place.

DEATHS.

Nov. 22, from disease of the heart, THOMAS HENDERSON, Esq., professor of practical astronomy in the university of Edinburgh.

Nov. 22, Sir JOHN SHALE, Bart., M.P. for Dartmouth.

Nov. 22, SARAH, for 51 years the beloved wife of Mr Richard Webb Jupp, of Carpenter's hall, London, in the 75th year of her age.
 Nov. 20, at Kensington Gravel pits, Sir AUGUSTUS WALL CALLCOTT, R.A., aged 63.
 Nov. 25, at Cirencester, MARIA, wife of Christopher Bowley, Esq., aged 82 years.
 Nov. 29, ELIZA EASTMAN, the infant daughter of Mr Thomas FULLYAMER, of Gosport, aged 13 months.
 Nov. 29, after a short illness, at Bath, the Hon. ROBERT OTWAY CAVE, M.P. for Tipperary.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.
Friday, November 29.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 Wm IV., cap. 85:—

Bethel chapel, Braybourne, Kent.
 Ebenezer chapel, Shebbear, Devonshire.
 Methodist chapel, Saddleworth, Yorkshire.
 Presbyterian chapel, Topsham, Devonshire.

BANKRUPTS.

CROSS, WILLIAM, Chester, lead merchant, Dec. 13, Jan. 3: solicitors, Messrs Sharpe and Co., Bedford row, and Mr Carter, Liverpool.

HARWAR, JOSEPH, Charlotte street, Bloomsbury, pianoforte manufacturer, Dec. 10, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs Willis, Bower, and Willis, Tokenhouse yard.

HENDERSON, WILLIAM, Sunderland, mercer, Dec. 9, Jan. 20: solicitors, Mr Moss, Cloak lane, and Mr Brown, Sunderland.

ISBOTHAM, MATTHEW and JOHN, Ecclesfield, Yorkshire, paper manufacturers, Dec. 10, Jan. 16: solicitors, Mr Tattershall, Great James street; Mr Marshall, Sheffield; and Mr Blackburn, Leeds.

MARSHALL, ROBERT, Deptford, stone mason, Dec. 17, Jan. 8: solicitors, Messrs Tyler and Lane, South square, Gray's inn.

NORTH, JOHN, Map's row, Stepney green, licensed victualler, Dec. 6, Jan. 10: solicitors, Messrs Yonge and Hancock, Tokenhouse yard.

OLIVER, WILLIAM, Darlington, Durham, printer, Dec. 9, Jan. 20: solicitors, Messrs Tilson and Squance, Coleman street, and Mr Allison, Darlington.

REES, WILLIAM, and EDWARDS, GEORGE, Wells, Somersetshire, seedsmen, Dec. 17, Jan. 10: solicitors, Mr Whittaker, Lincoln's inn-fields; Messrs Fry and Pain, Axbridge; and Messrs Robins and Hobbs, Wells.

STORRY, JAMES, and GIBB, JOHN, Liverpool, ship-chandlers, Dec. 10, Jan. 8: solicitors, Messrs Willis, Bower, and Willis, Tokenhouse yard, and Mr Mason, Liverpool.

TUCKER, RICHARD, Dean street, Westminster, farrier, Dec. 10, Jan. 4: solicitor, Mr Blackmore, Trafalgar square.

WALKER, CHLOE SMITH TAYLOR, Oxford street, artificial florist, Dec. 6, Jan. 10: solicitor, Mr Ward, Essex street.

WILLIAMS, LUCY, Oxford, woolen draper, Dec. 13, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs Dickson and Overbury, Frederick's place, Old Jewry.

WORTH, EDWARD POTTER, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, victualler, Dec. 10, Jan. 10: solicitors, Mr Noble, Henley-in-Arden, and Messrs Harrison and Smith, Birmingham.

DIVIDENDS.

W. France, Wigan, Lancashire, grocer; first div. of 9s. 6d. any Tuesday—E. Emmerson, Manchester, manufacturer; first div. of 2s. 0d., any Wednesday.

Tues. day, December 3rd.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 Wm IV., cap. 85:—

Rehoboth primitive methodist chapel, Leeds.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

SPENCER, JOSEPH, jun., Liverpool, builder.

BANKRUPTS.

BARTON, WILLIAM HENRY, 9, Bedford place, Commercial road east, 2, Church lane, Whitechapel, Chelmsford, and Gravesend, boot and shoe maker, Dec. 11, Jan. 11: solicitor, Mr Heath, Gracechurch street.

BURCHETT, WILLIAM, 94, Whitechapel road, chemist, Dec. 11, Jan. 15: Mr Turner, solicitor, Mount place, Whitechapel road.

DOTESIO, CHARLES, Royal Hotel, Slough, Buckinghamshire, hotel keeper, Dec. 11, Jan. 29: solicitor, Mr Froggart, Clifford inn.

FINLAYSON, JOHN, 11, Ranelagh street, Pimlico, grocer, Dec. 10, Jan. 14: solicitors, Messrs Tyas and Tyas, 13, Beaufort buildings.

KREVL, WILLIAM, 4, Cornwall place, Holloway, grocer, Dec. 19, Jan. 28: solicitor, Mr Scargill, Hatton court, Threadneedle street.

KETCHUM, ISAAC, Liverpool, merchant, December 19, January 17: solicitors, Messrs Sharpe, Field, and Jackson, Bedford row, London; and Messrs Miller and Peell, Liverpool.

LADSON, JAMES, Ramsgate, carver, December 11, January 14: solicitor, Mr S. Yates, Bury street, St Mary Axe.

NOTMAN, WILLIAM, 29, John street, Tottenham-court road, pianoforte manufacturer, December 10, January 14: solicitor, Mr Ward, Essex street.

PEARCE, JAMES, Praed street, Paddington, Dec. 13, Jan. 14: solicitor, Mr J. G. Graeff, 12, Fumival's inn.

PERKINS, WILLIAM, Portsea, Hampshire, upholsterer, Dec. 17, Jan. 8: solicitors, Messrs Bull and Co., Ely place.

ROBERTS, WILLIAM KENT, Abingdon, Berkshire, grocer, Dec. 11, Jan. 11: solicitors, Messrs Wire and Child, St Swithin's lane.

ROBINSON, HENRY, Devonport, brewer, Dec. 12, Jan. 9: solicitors, Mr H. T. Smith, Devonport; Messrs Keddie, Baker, and Grant, Lime street, London; and Mr John Stogdon, Exeter.

WALTER, MICHAEL, 21, Fleet street, Farringdon street, wholesale hardwareman, December 10, January 14: solicitor, Mr C. M. King, St Mary Axe.

WHITE, GEORGE EDWARD, Reading, tailor, December 12, January 16: solicitors, Messrs a'Beckett and Co., Golden square.

WHITE, CHARLES, and WALKER, JOHN, Jewry street, Aldgate, builders, December 20, January 14: solicitor, Mr Robert Slee, Parish street, St John's, Southwark.

WILLER, JOSEPH, Windsor, licensed victualler, December 10, January 15: solicitors, Messrs Parkes and Co., Bedford row.

WILLIAMS, THOMAS, sen., of Cardiff, Glamorganshire, iron-founder, December 17, January 16: solicitors, Mr Dalton, Cardiff, and Mr Perkins, Bristol.

WALLINGTON, JACOB, Bristol, painter, December 18, January 14: solicitors, Messrs Gillard and Co., Bristol.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

DOCTOR, ALEXANDER, Saint Andrews, Fifeshire, weaver, Dec. 7, 28.

M'INTYRE, DAVID, Nairn, plasterer, Dec. 10, Jan. 3.

MATHER, JAMES, and ALLAN, JAMES, Montrose, grocers, Dec. 9, 30.

TAYLOR, DAVID, and TAYLOR, WILLIAM, Dundee and Ruthven, machine makers, Dec. 12, Jan. 2.

TURNBULL, ALEXANDER, Edinburgh, furniture broker, Dec. 4, 18.

BRITISH FUNDS.

Business has been active during the past week, with a slight advance in prices.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	100½	100½	100½	100½	101½	101½
4 per cent. Account	100½	100½	101	100½	101½	101½
3 per cent. Reduced	99½	100	99½	99½	100½	100½
New 3½ per cent.	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½	102½
Long Annuities	12	12	12½	12	12	12
Bank Stock	206	206	207	208	208	208
India Stock	286½	287	288	288	—	—
Exchequer Bills	61pm	60pm	59pm	58pm	56pm	56pm
India Bonds	82pm	83pm	83pm	—	82pm	83pm

FOREIGN FUNDS.	
Austrian	—
Belgian	101½
Brazilian	102½
Buenos Ayres	35½
Columbian	13½
Danish	—
Dutch 2½ per cent.	62½
Ditto 5 per cent.	99½
Mexican	36½
Peruvian	24½
Portuguese 5 per cent.	88
Ditto converted	55½
Russian	118½
Spanish Active	24½
Ditto Passive	5½
Ditto Deferred	15½

RAILWAY SHARES.	
Birmingham and Derby	80
Birmingham & Gloucester	97
Blackwall	64
Bristol and Exeter	70
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	—
Eastern Counties	133
Edinburgh and Glasgow	61
Grand Junction	—
Great North of England	118
Great Western	142
Ditto Half	87½
Ditto Fifths	26
London and Birmingham	219
London & Birm. ½ Shares	24
London and Brighton	48
London & Croydon Trunk	164
London and Greenwich	94
Ditto New	22
Manchester and Leeds	113
Midland Counties	109
Ditto Quarter Shares	—
Midland and Derby	—
Ditto New	—
South Eastern and Dover	38
South Western	79
Ditto New	11

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, Dec. 2.

There was a fair supply of wheat at market this morning, which met with a tolerably free sale at last week's prices: the condition has also improved. There is some inquiry for foreign in retail.

Barley was plentiful, and a decline of 1s. to 2s. per quarter was submitted to on all descriptions of quality.

Oats were scarce, and quite as dear as on this day se'nnight.

Beans and grey Peas were more abundant, and both the turn cheaper; but white maintained price.

Wheat, Red New	40 to 48	Malt, Ordinary	46 to 60
Fine	48 to 53	Pale	60 to 65
White	46 to 50	Rye	28 to 38
Fine	52 to 56	Peas, Hog	32 to 37
Flour, per sack	33 to 47	Maple	33 to 37
Barley	24 to 28	Boilers	32 to 37
Malt	34 to 38	Beans, Ticks	32 to 37

DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN.	
Beans, Pigeon	32 to 38
Harrow	33 to 37
Oats, Feed	20 to 22
Fine	22 to 24
Poland	23 to 25
Potato	25 to 27
Wheat	20s. 0d.
Barley	3 0
Oats	6 0
Rye	7 6
Beans	5 6
Peas	8 6

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR NOV. 29.	
Wheat	45s. 10d.
Barley	35 2
Oats	21 8
Rye	30 9
Beans	35 6
Peas	36 2
AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.	
Wheat	45s. 1d.
Barley	35 3
Oats	21 3
Rye	35 8
Beans	37 6
Peas	34 11

SEEDS.

Supplies of white and red cloverseed have come to hand during the past week from the continent, and the demand for the article having meanwhile rather fallen off than improved, late rates were paid with some reluctance. Canaryseed was scarce, and realised a slight advance. In other descriptions of seeds the transactions were of a retail nature, without any variation occurring in quotations. Linseed cakes brought very high prices.

Linseed per qr		Clover per cwt.	
English, sowing	52s. to 58s.	English, red	— to —
Baltic, crushing	—	Ditto, white	—
Ditto, crushing	38 to 42	Flemish, pale	—
Medit. & Odessa	38 to 40	Ditto, fine	—
Hempseed, small	35 to 38	New Hamb., red	—
Large	—	Ditto, fine	—
Canary, new	54 to 57	Old Hamb., red	—
Extra	—	Ditto, fine	—
Caraway, old	44 to 46	French, red	—
New	48 to 50	Ditto, white	—
Ryegrass, English	—	Corlander	15 to 18
Scotch	—	Old	—
Mustard	per bushel	Rapeseed	per last
Brown, new	12 to 17	English, new	23s. to 25s.
White	14 to 18	Linseed cakes	—
Trefoil	—	English	10s. 10s. to 11s.
Old	—	Foreign	6s. 15s. to 7s.
Tares, new	5s. 6d. to 6s. 3d.	Rapeseed cakes	— to —

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Dec. 2.

The butter market continues very firm, and although the demand was not so extensive during last week as it has been, there was a respectable business doing at full prices, and in some cases a trifling advance obtained. Dutch has advanced to 106s. per cwt. In bacon there was a good deal doing in free on board sales, and prices the turn dearer. The arrivals last week from Ireland were 9,721 firkins butter, and 2,791 bales bacon; and from foreign ports 14,576 casks butter. Lard very firm at the late advance. Bale and tierce middles not altered in demand or value. Hams, new and of small size, wanted at full prices; other kinds scarcely noticed.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Dec. 2.

The market for hops has been quiet, but as regards prices, very steady—Sussex pockets, 7s. to 8s.; Wealds, 6s. 18s. to 8s.; Mid. Kent, 8s. to 10s. 10s.; East Kent, 7s. to 8s. 5s.; Do, choice growths, 10s. to 12s.; Farnham, 10s. to 10s. 15s.

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, Dec. 2.

The supply to this market continues to be equal to the demand. The weather being fine for the season, the town markets are fully supplied with vegetables; notwithstanding, there was considerable business done, and prices were fully maintained:—

York Reds	50 to 70	Kent & Essex Whites	50 to 55
Perth do.	55 to 60	Wisbeach Kidneys	— to 60
Early Devons do.	— to 65	Do. Whites	50 to 55
Cornwall do.	— to 65	Guernsey Blues	50 to 55
Jersey Blues	50 to 55	Prince Regents	55 to 65

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Dec. 2.

A full average number of beasts were on sale, and there was a slight improvement in quality. The trade in the dead markets being very firm, and the attendance of buyers numerous, the demand for all kinds of beasts was decidedly active, at an advance in the currencies obtained on this day se'nnight. At the close of the market very few head remained unsold. Rather extensive imports of live stock from abroad have again taken place during the past week; 67 beasts and 14 sheep having arrived at Hull from Rotterdam, while the arrivals for London have consisted of 43 oxen and cows from Schiedam, and 60 beasts and 195 sheep from Rotterdam. The supply of sheep was not large, yet it was fully equal to the wants of the trade. The mutton trade was tolerably steady, but last week's advanced rates were with difficulty supported. Calves, the supply of which was very limited, met a very heavy demand, at last week's prices. Prime small porkers were quite as dear, but all other kinds of pigs were a mere drug.

Price per stone of 14lbs. (sinking the offal).	
Beef	2s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.
Mutton	2 8 to 4 2
Pork	3 0 to 4 0

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.	
Beasts	Sheep
Friday 636	4,120
Monday 3,420	27,730

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Nov. 25.	
Per 8lbs. by the carcass.	
Inferior Beef 3s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.	Inf. Mutton 2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d.
Middling do 2 8 to 2 10	Mid. ditto 3 0 to 3 2
Prime large 3 0 to 3 2	Prime ditto 3 4 to 3 8
Prime small 3 4 to 3 6	Veal 2 10 to 4 0
Large Pork 2 4 to 3 4	Small Pork 3 6 to 3 10

COTTON.

The continuance of a fair demand has not had the effect of supporting prices this week. The accounts brought by the Great Western, on Saturday last, had an unfavourable effect upon the market, and we quote American fully id., Surat, id., and Brazil id. lower than on Friday last. The sales comprise 29,160 bales. Speculators have taken 1,000 American and 200 Surat.

WOOL.

There has been a fair demand for combing and clothing wool, and last week's prices are firmly maintained. The demand for laid Highland is limited. The imports of wool into London during the past week were 1,866 bales, of which 862 were from Tanagerog, 316 from Sydney, 156 from Russia, 348 from Germany, 160 from the Cape, 29 from Belgium, and 35 from Vostizza.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Nov. 30.—At per load of 36 trusses.	
Coarse Meadow .. 75s. to 96s.	New Clover Hay .. 90s. to 120s.
New ditto	Old ditto
Useful Old ditto .. 97 .. 104	Oat Straw 30 .. 32
Fine Upland ditto 105 .. 110	Wheat Straw 32 .. 35

COAL EXCHANGE, Nov. 25.

Stewart's, 22s. 6d.; Hetton's, 22s. 6d.; Braddyll's Hettons, 22s. 6d. Ships arrived this week, 261.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, DEC. 3.

TEA.—The market continues to have a firm appearance, and prices are fully as high as they have been.

COFFEE.—500 bags good ordinary Ceylon, offered in auction, were bought in at 53s. per cwt; 200 casks Jamaica, offered in auction, sold at full rates.

SUGAR.—100 hhds Barbadoes sold in auction at rather easier rates. The trade bought only 300 hhds and tierces. There was less doing in refined goods, and prices have declined; standard lumps selling at 73s., and brown grocery at 71s. 6d. to 72s. per cwt.

RICE.—There is a fair demand, and middling white was sold by private contract at 11s. 6d. per cwt.

Advertisements.

WANTED, in a First Rate Establishment near the Metropolis, as JUNIOR CLASSICAL MASTER, a well-educated and gentlemanly young man, of Christian character and acquainted with the art of Teaching. Also, in the same institution, as SECOND ENGLISH and MATHEMATICAL MASTER, a gentleman of similar qualifications. Applications to be addressed, by post only, to P. T., 173, Bishopsgate street Without.

AT A MEETING of the FRIENDS of the ECLECTIC REVIEW, held at Birmingham, November 18, 1844.

WILLIAM MIDDLEMORE, Esq., in the Chair,

The following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

On the motion of G. EDMONDS, Esq., seconded by the Rev. T. MORGAN—

1. That the meeting deem the *Eclectic Review* worthy of the especial approbation of the great body of Evangelical Protestant Nonconformists, as having, during a period of forty years, taken the lead in supporting the distinctive principles in which they are agreed, without compromise, sectarianism, or bitterness, and as being eminently calculated to raise the literary character of the dissenting body, who ought to bestow increased attention upon the higher departments of general literature.

On the motion of the Rev. T. SWAN, seconded by FRANCIS ROOM, Esq.—

2. That the services rendered by the *Eclectic Review* to dissenting literature are of such a high character, that it may well claim the general confidence and support of the body, notwithstanding differences of opinion on particular questions.

On the motion of the Rev. G. CHADLER, seconded by JOSEPH STURGE, Esq.—

3. That while the *Eclectic* continues to uphold and maintain the great principles of Nonconformity, so ably advocated by its esteemed Editor, Dr Price, on whose Christian principles and enlightened judgment reliance may safely be placed, this meeting will have great pleasure in promoting the extension of its circulation, as the literary organ of the evangelical dissenting body, in preference to any other journal less defined in its principles, or less catholic in its character.

On the motion of EDWARD SMITH, Esq., M.D., seconded by — BOWMAN, Esq.—

4. That this meeting present their best thanks to Dr Price, for the able, upright, unsectarian, and generous course he has hitherto pursued; they trust he will proceed in the management of the *Eclectic* with unshackled independence, and they sincerely hope that he will live to realise the fruit of his labours in the advanced education of the people, and the triumph of Christian truth.

On the motion of the Rev. G. DAWSON, M.A., seconded by — ROBERTS, Esq.—

5. That the gentlemen present do form a Committee, with power to add to their number, to carry out the objects of this meeting.

THE CHRISTIAN WITNESS.

TO THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES OF ENGLAND AND WALES, WITH THEIR PASTORS AND DEACONS.

BELOVED AND HONOURED FATHERS, BROTHERS, AND FRIENDS.—Our experimental year is at length completed, and it is now our privilege to present our readers with the result of our labours. The problem is solved; the peril is past; the *Christian Witness* is established. While we now tender cordial thanks to our friends for having placed our work in a respectable position, we would specially offer our devout acknowledgments to the Head of the church for every circumstance, and every instrument, which has in any way contributed to further its progress, and for the favour it has obtained in the sight of his people.

of the churches a circular, accompanied by the Prospectus of the projected Magazine, requesting the favour of an answer, stating the number of copies that might probably be taken by them respectively. The time specified expired, and the total of the returns was very little above two hundred! But who were the men that made them? With only two or three exceptions, not one was made by the pastors of the larger congregations! Few were received from the churches, whether great or small, of the principal towns and cities; and only three or four from the churches in and around the metropolis!

Such was the zeal of our people for their new Magazine!—a zeal which has been so admired, so applauded, and pointed to as a pattern to the people of other communities. This mistake must not be suffered to go uncorrected. That must not be ascribed to the whole, which is the property of only a part of our pastors, deacons, and people, and these belonging chiefly to churches of second, third, and fourth-rate magnitude, together with our excellent home missionaries, who rank among our most zealous and efficient friends; and, though last, not least, our Sunday-school Teachers, who from the first were largely our hope. These are the men who have established the *Christian Witness*! Theirs was the labour, theirs is the honour; and of that honour let them not be deprived! These are chiefly the persons whom posterity will have to thank and bless for this great benefaction. They have been through this first and most anxious year our main comfort and our principal support. Had the pastors and deacons of the greater churches performed their part with equal zeal, energy, and perseverance, our minimum of 50,000 had long since been realised, and the year might have closed with a circulation of 100,000! Still we would measure our reprehension of our much beloved, though neglectful brethren, most of whom, we have reason to believe, have now paid at least an instalment of the debt which they owed to those who were embarking labours and character, and making no small sacrifice to serve them, their flocks, their denomination, and the church at large. We would not severely censure them; we but gently complain; and our reference has respect rather to the future than to the past. In all circulars, which refer to important denominational movements, returns, whatever be their character, should be promptly made. Neglect is not merely painful and disheartening to official men; it is also attended with practical mischief to the working of our institutions. It is very much to be wished that all our readers, when great projects are in view, would occasionally re-peruse Johnson's Letter to Chesterfield; and, in particular, that they would ponder the following question of the great lexicographer: "Is not a patron, my lord, one who looks with unconcern on a man struggling for life in the water, and, when he has reached ground, encumbers him with help? The notice which you have been pleased to take of my labours, had it been early, had been kind; but it has been delayed till I am indifferent, and cannot enjoy it; till I am solitary, and cannot impart it; till I am known, and do not want it." We do not mean to apply to our brethren, in its full extent, the reproach of the sage to the courtier, especially the last part of it: for we still do "want" their help, their utmost help, in all possible ways, and stand ready to overlook the past, on the condition of such help being afforded, promptly and in proper measure.

This was not, however, the whole of the difficulty and discouragement with which the undertaking had to contend. It involved the Committee in no small pecuniary responsibility with the printer and stationer, while they were not only altogether without funds, but depressed by a considerable debt, which it had been imprudent to increase, and thus were consequently not in circumstances to enter the mart of literature, and offer terms to men whose talents are their only capital, and the sole means of subsistence to them and their dependents. Having nothing wherewith to offer, or guarantee any recompense to an Editor, they, of course, could place at his disposal nothing with which to procure literary assistance. Had the Committee, therefore, been shut up to these conditions, or either of them, it is probable that the *Christian Witness* had still remained among the things to be created. Had the Editor looked only at the facts now recorded, he would never have committed himself to a hope so forlorn. But encouraged by the handsome tribute implied in the application of the Committee of the Union for his services, and by the confidence of the Assembly itself, as expressed by their resolution at Leeds; strongly animated also by the general tone and spirit of all, and the personal bearing of a portion, of the two hundred letters of the pastors who made returns to the circular; and having the utmost faith in the bulk of our people, whatever might be the apathy of their leaders, and especially in the Teachers of our Sabbath schools; on these grounds, and, above all, considering that obedience to the call might, perhaps, be for the glory of God and the good of his church, he resolved, relying on help from above, to accept the Editorship for a "single year."

By the time that matters were settled, the year 1843 was drawing to a close. Even the Prospectus was dated so late as the 17th of November. It was every way desirable, however, to begin with the year ensuing, and on this the Editor determined, whatever disadvantages might attend the measure. There was clearly no time for fully maturing his plans, and providing for variety of suitable matter. Only some twenty days remained to get up the first number, amid the multitude and pressure of pastoral and other labours; and for this he had not a single hand except his own to rely on. With Johnson, in a case somewhat analogous, he might say, "it may repress the triumph of malignant criticism" to know that such were the circumstances under which the *Christian Witness* was ushered into the world.

The aggregate publication of the *Christian Witness*, for the entire year, is 405,400 copies, which, divided by twelve, gives an average of 33,783 for each month. The sale, of course, is within the publication, as a portion of back stock is always required to complete sets; but with respect to most of the numbers, it is so limited, that there is even ground to fear there will be a necessity, during the ensuing year, for a considerable outlay in reprinting them. The fact of such an aggregate is so far gratifying, but by no means satisfactory. The narrowest limit of a Denominational Magazine ought to be the limit of the families composing its members and adherents. What reason is there for its being in one house that does not equally require it to be in every house? Whether it be viewed as a luxury or as a necessity, since the *Christian Witness* is within the easy reach, ought it not to be in the actual possession of every family? And are there not likewise tens of thousands of young people and single persons, connected with our churches and congregations, that ought to avail themselves of its cheap and multifarious information and instruction? Is it possible for them to lay out threepence in anything literary to the same advantage? Those who have taken in the *Christian Witness* are now possessed of an octavo volume of all but six hundred pages, containing more matter than four ordinary octavos, costing half-a-guinea each; and to the praise of the committee it ought to be stated that, from the first, they have given sixteen columns of matter every month more than was originally intended. As much letter-press is furnished in the one case for Three Shillings, as in the other for Two Guineas! Who shall estimate the value of such a boon to the millions? When we think of their poverty and affliction, and remember that they compose a very large portion of the people of God, it rejoices our hearts to reflect, that the *Christian Witness* is available to the poorest family among them, and that it may serve at once to enlarge their minds, to nourish their spirits, to comfort their hearts, and to beguile their sorrows! While deeply solicitous to profit the affluent and middle classes, we shall ever deem it among our highest honours to be the teachers of the apprentice and the ploughboy—of the mountain shepherd and the field labourer. To be the instructors and the benefactors of the millions is the very summit of our ambition. We would burst their chains, raise them from their prostration, and make them men! And with this view, we sigh for the largest possible addition to our circulation!

Such are the views, principles, and feelings, with which the Editor entered upon his office, and which hitherto have constantly governed him. Of the difficulties attendant on the outset of such an undertaking he will not speak; for they are well worth encountering, were they a thousand-fold. Concerning the anxiety, vexation, care, and toil, which must ever continue to invest the office, by whomsoever discharged, he will also be silent; for they ought ever to be viewed as a thing of nought, compared with the inexpressible importance of the object. But

for the encouragement of those that may succeed him, he would merely allude, in passing, to the manifold alleviations connected with the function; to the valuable friendships it tends to create and multiply; to the intercourse it opens up with men whom it is a privilege to know, and with whom it is an honour to co-operate; to the enlarged means and opportunities it furnishes of performing important acts of kindness, benevolence, humanity, and justice, to objects of desert—means and opportunities connected with no other vocation; to the manifold and multifarious incitements to constant and progressive mental and moral self-improvement; and to all these, last, but not least, must be added, a field of Christian usefulness which throws all other fields into the shade.

Of the manner in which the duties of the first year have been discharged, it is for the public to judge and pronounce. The imperfections, the Editor is well aware, are many and great; but there needs no apology where there has been no complaint. Since the appearance of the first Number, he is happy to record that not a breath of dissatisfaction from any quarter has reached him; but from all sides he has received from those whom it is an honour to please, both by word and by epistle, the most abundant testimony that his very imperfect but zealous endeavours to aid the brethren, to benefit the churches, and to serve his generation, have been viewed not merely with generous forbearance, but with strong approbation. He believes the plan, how imperfect soever the execution, of the *Christian Witness*, to be the most effective that could be devised for general utility. On this point he has read with no small satisfaction the opinion of the late Dr Arnold, of Rugby, whose Life has lately appeared. That remarkable man possessed a more than ordinary insight into the working of the social system, and was eminently skilled in the best and only sure methods of healing the maladies of the body politic. He placed his entire confidence in truth—the truth as it is in Jesus—as the instrument of medicating the diseased spirit, and of lifting up the prostrate mind of nations. As one means of its most effectual diffusion, that most enlightened, philosophic, and truly great patriot entertained an exalted idea of the power and value of cheap periodical literature. Expatiating on this subject some years before his lamented death, he thus expressed himself: "I want to get up a real 'Poor Man's Magazine,' which should not bolster up abuses and veil iniquities, nor prose to the poor as to children; but should address them in the style of Cobbett—plainly, boldly, and in sincerity—excusing nothing, concealing nothing, and misrepresenting nothing; but speaking the very whole truth in love—Cobbett-like in style, but Christian in spirit." What this eminent scholar desired to establish, it has been attempted to supply in the pages of the *Christian Witness*. Cobbett! Had that mighty peasant, that "last of the Saxons," possessed the knowledge of God, and the love of Christ, with an observation so keen, a logic so vigorous, a soul so capacious, a temperament so fervid, or, to use the significant expression of his sons, "a mind made by nature of the most vehement kind," an unrivalled command of his native tongue, and a pen the power of which was equalled only by its perseverance, he might have exerted a moral influence among the people of England, greater, by a thousand-fold, than that of the whole Bench of Bishops! One of the most eminent transatlantic prelates now living truly says, "The bishops, in theory, are indeed the governors of the church: in practical effect, however, on the minds of the majority, the editorial chair stands far above them." This witness is true, and it is time that the independent of England should know it. The foundation of their system is heavenly truth; their hope of triumph is entirely founded on the spread of scriptural knowledge. To them, light is life; darkness, destruction! Both as it respects church polity, and civil as well as religious liberty, they have taken up a position far ahead of the bulk both of the church and of the world, and there they calmly await the arrival of all people, tribes, and tongues; for thither, assuredly, however slowly, they are all traveling onward. The hearts of mankind will find no rest but in God; the thrones of the world no repose but on truth. The religion of Christ must one day become the politics of the nations, and the New Testament the code of universal legislation. Let the principle of independency once pervade the religion of the earth, and that simple fact will be a virtual proclamation that despotism in all its forms has fallen, that our race is emancipated, and our world become the Temple of Freedom!

Our counsel, therefore, to our people is, to seize the printing press, and to bring its utmost power to bear upon the millions of the British Empire. As truly as beautifully did the Right Hon. George Canning describe its general power when he said, "By means of printing, man may speak to all kindreds, and tribes, and people, and tongues, and make his voice be heard with simultaneous power, beyond the Atlantic waves, and upon the shores of the Caspian sea, and amid the population of Europe. Nay, he may speak to accumulating generations after his death with all the freshness and force of personal eloquence. Printing gives to man a sort of ubiquity and eternity of being; it enables him to outwit Death, and enshrine himself amid a kind of earthly immortality. It enables him to speak while yet dead. His words that breathe, and thoughts that burn, are embodied and embalmed; and with him thousands hold profitable or hurtful communion till time is no more. If, then, we are loudly called upon to be careful what we speak, and what we do, we are doubly warned to beware what we throw into the press, and invest with a power to endure, and a strength to pass every sea, and to visit every people." All this applies with force a hundred-fold increased, to the periodical press. Other things being equal, circulation is everything. The influence of a book is just in proportion to the number of its readers. Beyond all question, therefore, the highest application of the power of the printing press lies in the issue of popular periodicals. Compared with this, all ordinary authorship, how splendid soever, is work in a corner, labour in a cave; it may benefit the few, and conduct its authors to fame, but it will leave the masses unblessed. What is it, this moment, whether for evil or for good, feeding, forming, and moulding the minds of the British people? Is it the folio, the quarto, the goodly octavo, or the royal twelve? Nay, verily; but small and unpretending manuals of divers forms and diminutive appearance. But in the more athletic efforts of the periodical field itself, where lies the chief power? Assuredly there, too, not in the larger, but in the smaller publications; not in those of the least frequent, but in those of the most frequent recurrence. On this subject, we think, some wise and good men are mistaken; they seem to us to attach a most inordinate importance to costly periodical literature. According to them, no religious community was ever respectable and strong without a high-priced and large-typed Quarterly Periodical; just as, according to others, no nation was ever respectable and strong without a rich and privileged nobility. What nobles have done for nations, may be ascertained from history; but what Quarterlies have done for religious bodies, we have yet to learn. A good nobility, if it can be created, may, for aught we know, be a good institution; and a good Quarterly, if it can be established, in its own little sphere, may be a useful organ; but for the advancement of a nation's real good, we would not give 10,000 well-disciplined British School Teachers for all the nobles in the world; and for training, purifying, elevating, animating, and impelling on to virtuous deeds the souls of the Christian portion of the British people, we would not give a well-conducted Weekly Religious Paper, with a circulation of 100,000 copies, and so cheap as to bring it within the reach of the poorest, for all the Quarterlies that British talent could produce, and British wealth support. We say, therefore, whatever else you do, attend to the organs of the millions! Would that the minds of our gifted ministers, and of our opulent, liberal, and public-spirited laymen, were fully alive to this subject, and that they would direct their energies into this channel! Neglect what you may, remember the millions! Let your first object and your last be to advance, in all possible ways, your own cheap periodical literature. This is your life! Even the opulent, instead of overlooking, should most prize the excellence which is cheapest. The cheaper it is, the more it approximates to all God's chief blessings. That which only few can purchase, only few can read. The numbers circulated of half-crown Monthlies, and six-shilling Quarterlies, whatever their respective merits, must always be limited to comparatively a few hands, and, therefore, utterly and every way impotent for popular objects. But fact in this matter is better than argument. The present number of the *Christian Witness*, for example, publishes 33,000 copies of the important documents of the Union in one day, thus diffusing them among myriads of minds, of every order, in all the coasts and districts of the British empire, and through most parts of the civilised

world; and this at such a price as a child pays for the most insignificant plaything! This is a boon that could not be conferred on the church of Christ by all our expensive Monthly and Quarterly Reviews and Magazines, both religious and secular, united. Six-shilling Quarterlies belong to the reign which gloried in castled wagons, drawn by twelve horses, and moving at the dignified pace of twelve miles a day; half-crown Monthlies are of a species with the handsome English stage-coach, driving at twelve miles an hour—good things, inside, for people possessing wealth and leisure; but cheap periodicals belong to the age of the railway! Every man, then, to his taste; Gothic things for Gothic men; but light postage, quick transit, cheap Bibles, and cheap periodicals, for the millions of England!

In looking on the awful future, we most heartily thank all our friends for all their kindness, and throw ourselves upon their generous confidence and best feelings during the year to come. We need make no promises, nor give any pledges, where neither are demanded; but we think it probable that our next volume will be superior to the present. The year of commencement is attended with difficulties which diminish with time, and it is connected with wants which time alone can supply. Our correspondence has been as unexampled in amount as our circulation; but very little of it has been availing. Utility is the star by which we steer; things speculative and curious are not to our purpose. Our cue, relative to chief articles, is always taken from the times which are passing over us. To fill our pages with general edifying matter—matter equally suited to any month of the year, and any year of the century—would be an easy task; but that ease would be purchased at a very heavy expense to the cause for which, and to the community for whom, we toil. Now that our principle is understood, we trust our excellent correspondents will act upon it, and thus mitigate the severity of our personal labours.

We are encouraged to hope that our usefulness will be largely increased during the year to come. Things new are strange, and men must scrutinise them: new periodicals are at first received, even by the wise and good, with more or less of doubt, suspicion, jealousy, and fear. But this comes gradually to an end. Anxiety naturally gives place to repose, caution to confidence, criticism to reflection—advantages which, both to them and ourselves, time alone could bring. Still, with a body of readers so great, an attempt to please all would be as preposterous as its attainment would be impossible. All that we can expect to realise is, sometimes to please, and sometimes to offend; to please all by turns, and occasionally to please one class and offend another by the self-same articles, and often to confer most benefit when we yield least pleasure.

To be felt, a public writer must be strong—and gentle spirits, in his strength, will sometimes see violence; to be understood, he must be plain—and plainness will offend pride. Nor is this all; to public men in our present state the condition of doing much that is wise and good is, the doing, sometimes, a little that is neither. But the public should remember that error is not confined to editors and action; they, too, may err in judgment and conduct—may err through ignorance, through precipitance, through prejudice, through misrepresentation, and inculpate deeds which merit the highest praise. An editor, too, has frequently occasion to say and do things of strange aspect and apparently questionable prudence to those who look on from a distance. Duty will often prompt a deed of which propriety conceals the reason. The function, therefore, demands confidence—strong, full, general confidence. He who fills the office must deserve this; and deserving, he must possess it. The public creed concerning him should comprise but one tenet, and that tenet, INFALLIBILITY!

One passing word on such public questions as unhappily divide us. On these, of course, we have our own opinions—opinions with respect to which many are before, and not a few behind us. Now, seeing that we cheerfully bear with both, and labour to benefit both, is it too much that we ask both in turn to bear and work with us? With regard to those ahead of us, we deem it not merely impolitic, but cruel and unjust, to asperse and malign them. We do, we must, we ever shall, respect the men who pay such penalties for their principles. We hold ourselves their debtors. They are pioneering our way. Where they are we shall one day be. Are they harsh, bitter, uncharitable? They may be so; but this is very much a matter of taste. Are they violent and needlessly offensive to our common adversaries? They may be so; but this will pass away, while the spirit of freedom, with which it is associated, will outlive all things. By their indiscretions it is contended that they retard the cause they, in common with us, seek to advance! Time alone can prove the truth of the allegation. We have somewhere read a beautiful tale of a fairy, which the writer applied to freedom. It was to the following effect. For certain causes this tiny spirit was condemned to appear on earth, at particular periods, in the guise of a loathsome and poisonous snake; and in that state her treatment from mankind was carefully remembered by her. Those who, in the seasons of her humiliation, injured her, were for ever excluded from all share in the rich blessings she bestowed at other times. But to those who, unrepelled by her disgusting aspect, pitied and protected her till her transformation, she afterwards revealed herself in a lovely and celestial form, which was her natural and proper body, attending their footsteps, granting all their wishes, loading them with wealth, and lavishing on them all sorts of favour. Such a spirit is Liberty. At times she takes the form of a loathsome reptile. She creeps, she hisses, she stings. But woe to those whose hatred and disgust prompt attempts to crush her! Happy are they, on the contrary, who, pitying her frailty, overlook her faults, and, waiting for time to correct and experience to teach her, espouse her cause, and help her against her enemies. When the time shall come for her to ascend her throne, clothed in beauty and surrounded with glory, she will load them with her choicest blessings. Let grave divines, the monopolists of wisdom, and the apostles of prudence, ponder and remember the lesson of the fairy!

Now for action, in the prospect of 1845. Whose bosom glows with warm desires for the good of his country and of mankind? Who bears an ardent love to the congregational community, and fervently longs to see their churches improved, elevated, animated, and multiplied? Who prays with all prayer and supplication for the spread of the gospel, the triumphs of truth, at home and in our distant colonies? Whose sympathising heart bleeds over the benighted heathen, and burns to behold the whole earth filled with the glory of Emmanuel! Let all such diffuse the *Christian Witness*! Pastors, Deacons, Communicants, Auditors, Door-keepers, Collectors, Visitors, Home Missionaries, Travelling Agents, we urge, we conjure you to devise all practicable methods, and watch for every opportunity, to diffuse the *Christian Witness*!

At the opening of the year we said, "The Public, not the Editor, are now on their probation. If they perform their duty, we shall strenuously labour to promote their best interests; if not, at the close of a year we shall separate. Gold could not have brought us to the task; and, unless our idea of success be realised, gold shall not bind us to it." Now, part of our people have done "their duty," and done it nobly, and so far we are satisfied; the majority have not so done, and we are disappointed. Our "idea of success," therefore, though largely, have not been fully, "realised." Cheered, nevertheless, by the generous zeal of the one class, we shall have patience with the other; and, although at present declining the permanent editorship, we have agreed to extend the probation of our defective friends to One More Year, in the hope, in the confidence, that they will yet perform "their duty." According to our views, after the most careful inquiry and mature deliberation, our circulation, at the very least, ought to be Fifty Thousand. We shall, therefore, wait to see the result of our present appeal. If the leading spirits and official men of our community shall awake, put on their strength, and enable us to begin the year with 50,000, we shall be encouraged to begird ourselves for its labour and turmoil with courage and constancy; and at the commencement of 1846, should life be spared, and our services continue to be acceptable, we might probably then see our path clear to a continuance; but if otherwise—if, at any rate, we do not close the next year with 50,000—whatever else may issue from the fact, it will be to us a great, a grievous disappointment. But it must not—it will not be! We shall not be disappointed. Not our expectations will be more than realised. If only a minority of our people have achieved for us such a circulation already, what may not be effected by the unanimous, simultaneous, and resolute exertion of our entire community!

November 11th, 1844.

JOHN CAMPBELL.

